PAPERS

LAID BEFORE THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

CEYLON

DURING THE

SESSION OF 1884.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ORDINARY SESSION.

Wednesday, 15th October, 1884.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HON. A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G., President.

The Hon. Major-Gen. Sir J. C. McLEOD, K.C.B.
The Hon. J. F. DICKSON, C.M.G.
The Hon. F. FLEMING.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR.
The Hon. W. D. WRIGHT.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS.
The Hon. P. A. TEMPLER.
The Hon. F C. H. CLARKE, R.A., C.M.G.
The Hon. JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD.
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS.
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET.

1. MEMBERS SWORN.—The oath of allegiance was taken by the Hon. P. A. Templer, the Hon. Major F. C. H. Clarke, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, members taking their seats in Council for the first time.

2. OPENING OF THE SESSION.—His Excellency the Governor opened the Session with the following Address:—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

IT is with pleasure that I recur to your advice and co-operation.

The financial position of the Colony again demands our first consideration.

I wish that it were in my power to present to you a more cheering picture of the transactions of the past year than that which it is my duty to lay before you, and that I could indulge in more satisfactory anticipation as to the financial results of the present year, and of that for which we are now called on to provide, than is justified by the experience of the past nine months, or by the figures which will be submitted to you.

The revenue for 1883, which had been estimated at Rs. 12,410,000, fell short of the estimated sum, though to no very considerable amount, the actual receipts being Rs. 12,396,577·87; while the expenditure, which had been estimated at Rs. 12,294,856, was successfully kept down, and amounted in fact only to the sum of Rs. 12,222,234; showing a saving on the estimate of Rs. 72,622, and an excess of receipts over expenditure of Rs. 174,343·62.

But this result is due partly to casual and exceptional receipts, which cannot be considered part of the actual revenue for the year, and consisting chiefly of a sum of Rs. 124,535, the balance of the Sinking Fund of the main line of railway, which was brought to account in 1883.

Strictly speaking, the ordinary revenue of the year did little more than cover the ordinary and inevitable expenditure.

The revenue for the present year was estimated at practically the same amount as that for 1883, the tendency to revival which had marked the concluding months of last year appearing fully to justify the anticipation that better results might be looked for in 1884 than had been realized in the preceding twelve months. Thus far, these anticipations have not been realized. The actual revenue for the first eight months of the year was only Rs. 7,712,782·54, as against Rs. 7,949,578 during the same period of 1883, and a deficiency in the estimate of Rs. 562,550 was left to be made good during the remaining four months of the year. The revenue for the month of September, however, amounted to Rs. 1,255,918·04, and should this improvement continue through the remaining months of the year, it may still be possible, if a rigid and vigilant economy be exercised in all branches of the Administration, to avoid the occurrence of a deficit at the end of the year.

At the same time, there are some points to be noticed of a more encouraging nature. In 1882 the revenue failed in all those branches which depended on industrial enterprise. This was

not the case in 1883,—the returns from Customs, Land Revenue, and Licenses all having exceeded the estimated amount.

The figures are as follows :—

			Rs.
Customs Duties.			
Estimated	...	...	2,730,000
Actual	...	...	2,754,697
Land Revenue			
Estimated	...	...	875,000
Actual	...	...	950,841
Land Sales.			
Estimated	...	...	250,000
Actual	...	...	264,885
Licenses.			
Estimated	...	...	1,500,000
Actual	...	...	1,533,597

This improvement has been fairly maintained during the first nine months of 1884.

The increase, too, in the export of agricultural products other than coffee has also continued.

The exports of tea in 1883 stand at 1,665,768 lbs., as against 697,268 lbs. in 1882, an increase of 968,500 lbs. ; and for the first nine months of 1884 they have amounted to 1,884,290 lbs. as against 1,408,783 lbs. at a corresponding period last year.

The export of cinchona has also enormously increased,—that is to say, from 4,655,944 lbs. in 1882 to 7,489,005 lbs. in 1883 ; and that again to no less than 9,060,049 lbs. in the first nine months of 1884. I fear however that this increased exportation must not be attributed to any improvement in the prospects of the cinchona planters, but rather to causes which are by no means indications of prosperity among those who have devoted themselves to its culture.

The most satisfactory increase is that which has taken place in the exports of cacao, which from 864 cwts. in 1882 increased to 3,376 cwts. in 1883, and in the present year had already amounted to 8,800 cwts. on the 30th ultimo.

A grave peril which has befallen us since we separated has been happily surmounted. The failure of the Oriental Banking Corporation threatened to arrest all commercial and industrial activity, and to cut off the food supplies of a large part of the population, causing thereby much misery, if not dangerous disturbances of the public peace.

In this emergency, I assumed the responsibility of guaranteeing the holders of notes of the Corporation against loss through any reduction of their nominal value. I have every reason to be satisfied with the results of that step, which restored entire confidence in the notes in question, has secured for them an unchecked circulation, and unhesitating acceptance,—and has, I am firmly persuaded, averted from the Colony calamities which it is impossible to contemplate with calmness. But it was a step of grave importance. It involved the risk of burdening the Colony with heavy expenditure, and the certainty of throwing on the Government responsibility for the obligations of a private Corporation altogether at variance with the usage and traditions of the Imperial Treasury, and contrary to the ordinary application of sound general principles of finance. It was therefore one to be justified only by imperious necessity.

Such necessity I hold to have existed. No other guarantee than that of the State, however respectable, would have in the least degree commanded confidence, or sufficed to avert the imminent catastrophe, while the smallest delay or hesitation in affording it would have worked irreparable mischief, which no subsequent efforts could have undone.

After full and cool reflection, therefore, I am still convinced that, much as I could have desired to obtain your concurrence, and that of the Imperial Government, before taking such a step, I should have erred, had I delayed my action in order to enable me to do so. Of your concurrence,—I hope not wrongly,—I felt assured: while the time was altogether wanting for such explanations as would have enabled Her Majesty's Government thoroughly to comprehend the urgent necessity for action, or the fact that two or three days' delay in the grant of permission to issue the guarantee would have rendered its issue valueless.

It was felt, both by myself and by the members of my Executive Council, that the risks which had been incurred by the sudden depreciation of the notes of what had been the principal Bank of Issue in the Colony, were too serious to allow any danger of their repetition to be incurred. I at once telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies to request that the privilege of a note issue might be withheld from any bank which might replace the Oriental Bank, and by the next mail I forwarded for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government a proposal for the issue of notes by the Government of this Colony.

These proposals could not be sanctioned without the previous consent of the Imperial Treasury, and as they involved a departure from a policy which has been sedulously inculcated and rigidly upheld for many years, it was not to be expected that such consent would be at once, or readily, given. After a long correspondence, the reluctant assent of the Lords of the Treasury has been obtained, and one of the first measures to which I shall invite your attention will be an Ordinance to authorize the issue of notes by the Colonial Government, and to render them a Legal Tender throughout the Island.

These notes are now being printed, and will be ready for issue in Ceylon before the close of the month of February. Holders of notes of the Oriental Bank will, during a period to be fixed by Proclamation, enjoy the option of receiving in exchange for them, on presentation at the Treasury, either Government notes or their full nominal value in silver.

I fear that I cannot congratulate you on any material improvement in the position and prospects of the Planting Community, and it becomes a matter of grave concern to consider whether, and in what way, the Government can manifest its sympathy with their misfortunes and aid them in their distress. In this connection it may be well to lay down what are, and what are not, legitimate modes of assistance.

The Planting enterprise has indirectly bestowed great benefits on the Colony; but it must not be forgotten that they are incidental and not the main object of its existence. The State may justifiably stimulate and aid, in the first instance, the establishment of industries which promise to be remunerative and self-supporting; but an attempt on the part of the State to maintain any enterprise in a remunerative condition, which without its aid would cease to be so, or, in other words, to make those who are successful in one industry, pay for the support of those who are unsuccessful in another, is illegitimate and injurious. Within these limits, much may be done. Beyond them, it is not well to travel.

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the ensuing year will shortly be laid before you. I need hardly assure you that they have been prepared with a careful regard to the present financial condition and prospects of the Colony.

It is my intention to accompany these Estimates with a Message, in which I propose to explain and discuss, in some detail, the various proposals which I shall consider it my duty to make to you.

Meanwhile, although deferring until that occasion their more full examination, it may be desirable that I should indicate generally the nature of the more important provisions which they contain.

It was my agreeable duty on first assuming the Government of this Island to announce that Her Majesty's Government had assented to a considerable reduction in the amount of the Military Contribution hitherto paid by the Colony. But, I, at the same time, intimated my opinion that further reductions on this head were required, and at a later period you adopted an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, praying that the number of troops stationed here might be diminished, and naming Rs. 500,000 as the amount which might properly be voted by the Colony for Military purposes.

I am happy to be able to inform you that Her Majesty's Government has consented to another large reduction of the Military Vote, and that the amount to be asked for on this account for 1885 will not exceed Rs. 600,000.

When it is remembered that this is a redu . . of no less than Rs. 640,000 on the amount voted for 1883, it will be at once admitted that although this remission is not all that you have asked for, it is sufficient to afford sensible relief to the Colonial Finances.

When I add that Her Majesty's Government, at the same time, assumes the burden of all those incidental charges for which the Colony is now liable, and that the number of troops stationed here will probably remain what it is at present, it will be perceived that the contemplated settlement is far from being an illiberal one. It is proposed that this arrangement should have a duration of five years, at the end of which time it will be revised, and, I hope, yet further reductions effected. As I have already said, it is probable that the force will be maintained at its present strength, but in any case it will not, during the continuance of this arrangement, be reduced to less than 400 men, exclusive of the garrison of Trincomalee.

Notwithstanding the relief thus afforded, it will, I regret to say, be requisite, as I last year intimated would probably be the case, to resort in some degree to those measures of additional taxation which were suggested for your consideration by the Imperial Government. This taxation it is proposed to levy in such a manner as to press as lightly as possible on the community at large. I intend to ask you to reconsider the existing Customs duties with a view to the augmentation of the duties on certain articles of luxury,—(an augmentation which will still leave the rates imposed far less than those payable in India,)—to consent to a slight rise in the *ad valorem* duties,—and the removal from the list of exemptions of some of the articles now found there. I shall also submit to you a carefully considered proposal for the imposition of increased Stamp duties.

There is no office so distasteful, no task so ungrateful, as that of proposing measures of additional taxation. But there is a two-fold reason for their adoption by us.

For the last few years we have been buoyed up by hopes that a return of prosperity was imminent, and we have accordingly postponed every expenditure which was not absolutely, and at the moment, necessary, including many the postponement of which necessitates only greater outlay at a future day. This is a short-sighted as well as timid policy, and the time has come when it must be abandoned.

To save five rupees in one year by the refusal of some trifling repair which in the year following will cost ten, is false economy, unless it be certain, or at least in a high degree probable, that a year of abundance is at hand which will enable us with ease to make good all past deficiencies.

We can no longer entertain such a hope, and we must choose between the abandonment of duties actually incumbent on us and of all progress and improvement, and the imposition of fresh burdens to enable us to incur the necessary outlay. It is a stern and disagreeable fact that taxation must too often vary inversely to a people's ability to bear it. The richest and most flourishing community will always be that which is, comparatively speaking, most lightly taxed. A poor community must bear taxation, or abdicate its duties; and we must either submit to be taxed, or forego the satisfactory performance of those obligations which we have already taken upon us, and the hope of being enabled to engage in enterprises which I trust we may ere long see undertaken.

Of these enterprises, that which first demands consideration is the extension eastwards of our Railway System.

I need hardly say that my careful consideration has been given to this subject, and I may add that I have seldom dealt with a more perplexing problem.

On first meeting you, I said that when I had had sufficient time to master the question, I should take the earliest opportunity of communicating to you the opinion I had formed.

That pledge I now proceed to redeem. Several subsidiary questions have at the same time to be considered, but some of them may be disposed of with comparative ease.

First among these questions is that of route. If the railway between Hatton and Nánu-oya were not on the point of completion, this question would demand most careful consideration, and I am by no means prepared to say that very strong arguments might not be urged in favour of a line reaching no higher elevation than that attained by the proposed Bogawantalawa line, or on behalf of one leading into Uva direct from Kandy. But these questions as to an abstractly preferable line to Badulla belong rather to the region of academic discussion, than to that of practical politics. The railroad has virtually already arrived at Nánu-oya, and, being there, it is useless to discuss any line except one which proceeds onwards from that point. Whatever else may be in doubt, there can, I think, be none that, if the railway be extended at all, it must be extended by way of Haputalé.

Secondly, is this extension, if undertaken, to be regarded as an extension to Haputalé only, or as one to Badulla?

I am myself decidedly in favour of the more distant terminus.

Thirdly, on what gauge is the projected extension to be constructed?

On this point I cannot speak with the decision I should wish, or with the certainty I expected to attain. I strongly incline, however, to the belief that the inconveniences which attend a break of gauge, though real, are less considerable than those which would be involved in the retention of that now in use. The determination of this point is one which rests upon the answer to be given to two other questions:—Will the substitution of a narrow for a broad gauge railway between Nánu-oya and Haputalé be attended by such a reduction of its cost as sensibly to affect our power of constructing it? and, if so, what will be the carrying capacity of such a line? If it be found that the sum to be gained by such an alteration is inconsiderable, then I should not think the gain commensurate with the inconvenience which, even under the most favourable circumstances, must attend a break of gauge. If, again, although the pecuniary saving on the construction would be large, the carrying capacity of a narrow gauge line were shown to be inadequate, not perhaps to the existing wants of the district, but to the certain development which awaits it, I should still counsel adherence to the existing gauge, in spite of the additional cost. If, however, both questions were answered satisfactorily, I should then advocate the adoption of a gauge which, while meeting all our wants, would allow us so to reduce our estimates of cost as to obtain an earlier sanction from the Imperial Government for the commencement of the work than would otherwise be practicable.

But when I come to ask whether we are in a condition to recommend the immediate commencement of this work, or if there is any reason why we should suppose that the Imperial Government would, or should, regard it with a more favourable eye now than in 1882, I am unable to give an affirmative reply. Any request for authority to negotiate a loan for this purpose would at this moment be wholly fruitless,—and rightly so. I have heard much positive assertion on all sides, in connection with this subject, but, as yet, we are unable to bring before the Secretary of State any conclusive evidence, either that, under the wholly altered conditions of agricultural enterprise in Ceylon, the work will be remunerative, or that we are able to bear the burden of providing for the interest and sinking fund of a new and considerable loan.

It will be my endeavour during the remainder of the present, and the early part of the ensuing year, to bring together facts and figures which will, I trust, warrant a more definite proposal to you on my part during the Session of 1885.

Our attention is naturally absorbed by the importance of Railway Extension in an eastern direction, but I am anxious that the claims of Railway Extension in other quarters should not be altogether overlooked.

The extension of the Southern Railway from Kalutara to Bentota could be accomplished at a comparatively trifling cost. I have satisfied myself that it would prove a handsomely remunerative undertaking, and I am inclined to believe that the returns on a further prolongation of the line to Galle would also justify the outlay to be incurred. This, however, cannot be positively asserted without the possession of more accurate data than are as yet before me.

Since the beginning of the year I have visited many different parts of the Island, and have, I need not say, seen much which has given me cause for thought, for inquiry, and for deliberate reflection. On the whole, I have been well satisfied with what I have seen, and I should be ungrateful not to acknowledge the kindness with which I have been everywhere received. If I do not as yet comment on what I have observed, it is because I have no such confidence in my own judgment as to suppose that my crude impressions are entitled to greater weight than the views of those who have served for years in the service of the Colony; and as on some subjects I, as yet at all events, hesitate to accept conclusions which I perceive to be generally prevalent among them, I prefer for the present to be silent.

In the course of my journeys, I have become forcibly impressed with the absolute necessity for more extended and systematic action on the part of Government in aid of the restoration of the Irrigation System of the Island.

It is, I think, impossible to overrate the importance of this work, or to neglect it without a criminal disregard of the obligations which are imposed on us by our position in Ceylon.

Sir Henry Ward, Sir Hercules Robinson, Sir William Gregory, have all recognized these facts, and have all made efforts to convert that recognition into practical action: but the money which they had hoped to keep steadily applied to irrigation works, has been diverted to objects not really of more importance,—for that is impossible,—but which appeared to be of more immediately pressing urgency. I am not hopeful of my own success where my predecessors have failed, but there are some circumstances which encourage me to persevere.

First among these, is the increasing magnitude of the evil produced in many parts of the country by the failure of the water supply, and the necessity for grappling with it at once, if it is to be grappled with at all. We have now the neglects and shortsightedness of half a century to repair. Eight-and-twenty years ago, when Sir Henry Ward first took up the question, there was far less to be done.

Secondly, I think the obligation of the Crown towards the people, in this respect, is now far more generally understood than used to be the case. It is a double obligation, partly founded on the fact that by receipt of the tithe or rent paid to it the Crown acknowledges its interest in the irrigation of land; partly on the fact, that to our well-intentioned, but perverse and mistaken, interference with traditional duties and customs, the ruin of not a few of the village tanks and irrigation canals which were in use fifty years ago is attributable.

Thirdly, the wonderful change effected where a village has received an abundant water supply is now to be seen in many places, and affords such an argument as cannot be controverted for the continuation of works of this nature.

Success or failure in this work depends mainly on your support, nor can I deem it necessary to point out to intelligent men the advantage to all classes, as well as to those immediately benefited which must result from the improvement of the health, the food, the dwellings, of the mass of the population.

I propose that ultimately a considerable sum of money, to be raised by loan, should be devoted to this work, and that its administration should, subject to the sanction of the Governor, be vested in Commissioners, who would be powerless to divert the funds entrusted to them to other objects. No such loan could be at present raised, nor are we as yet sufficiently prepared to apply it to advantage were it available. But I shall ask you for a vote which will enable me to cause a systematic survey to be made, not of detached works here and there, but of the watershed and irrigation capacity of whole districts. I believe it will be found that by a proper application of the resources of science, an enormous waste of water might easily be avoided.

I propose to commence these operations in the Northern Province, the North-Western Province, and the eastern part of the Central Province. It will no doubt be remembered by you that the Select Committee to which the subject was last year referred recommended that the money required for the restoration of the Kalawewa Tank and Yodi-Ela Canal should be raised by loan. This loan, which I had proposed to obtain from the Savings Bank's funds, would undoubtedly have received the sanction of the Imperial Government but for the suspension of the Oriental Bank Corporation. After that event the further consideration of the proposal was suspended. I still hope to obtain permission to effect this loan, but in the meanwhile I think it prudent to ask you for another vote of the same amount as last year. The total amount required for the completion of the work is about Rs. 290,000, and it would manifestly be more economical to raise and apply this sum at once than to ask you for votes for the next three years to come.

I have to request you to consider a measure for the amendment of the Road Ordinance, which will be laid before you. The existing law crowds our jails with prisoners, but does not effect its object. It familiarizes the people with imprisonment, which ceases to be a disgrace or a punishment, and it entails on the Government a large expenditure, not only without any corresponding benefit, but to the injury of all concerned.

The main object of the proposed amendment is in cases of default to substitute as far as possible increased work on the roads for detention in jail. Some of the provisions submitted to you may appear harsh and peremptory, but is it possible, I would ask, to maintain a system of forced labour by other means? It has been determined, and on the whole I think wisely determined, that the system of personal liability to labour should be maintained; but having thus decided, it is idle so to enforce the obligation as to render it easy of evasion, and useless to provide penalties which are not deterrent.

If it be shown to a would-be defaulter that his default will not be purged by a few days' detention in a residence where he will be better lodged and better fed than in his own home, but will entail on him a double task of the work he has neglected, default will, I think, become comparatively rare.

An Ordinance for the amendment of the Village Communities Ordinance will also be submitted to you.

The main objects of this Ordinance are two: the grant of a greater discretionary power with respect to bringing it into operation, and the removal of the bewildering uncertainty which at present exists as to the validity of any given rule framed by these communities.

At present, if Village Councils only, without tribunals, be in any place established, all breaches of their rules are adjudicated upon by the Police Magistrate in his court,—a mode of proceeding which is condemned by all the best authorities on the subject. If, on the other hand, a tribunal is instituted to try and punish breaches of the rules, it necessarily becomes possessed of civil and criminal jurisdiction also.

It appears to me and to my Executive Council that this arrangement, which is productive of much practical inconvenience, should be altered, and discretion given to the Governor in Council to establish either tribunals having the limited civil and criminal jurisdiction allowed by the

Ordinance, as well as the power of enforcing Gaṇsabhâwa rules, or tribunals possessing either one or more of these powers.

The interpretation given by the Courts to sections 6 and 7 of the Village Communities Ordinance has rendered necessary the other amendment to which I have referred.

There is, I imagine, hardly a rule of any Village Community which may not in some sense be said to conflict with one or another Ordinance, and consequently to be *ultra vires*. This extreme uncertainty as to the validity of any communal rule was certainly not contemplated by those who revived the system, and I believe the wording of sections 7 and 9 in Ordinance No. 26 of 1871 was deliberately intended to obviate such uncertainty. If so, the attempt has been singularly unsuccessful.

The framers of the amending Ordinance, No. 12 of 1880, appear to have entertained a larger view of the powers conferred by the original Ordinance than now prevails. They would hardly have inserted the proviso that the rules to be made with regard to the killing of game and buffaloes should not be inconsistent with Ordinance No. 6 of 1872, unless they had supposed that if such a proviso was not inserted the rules would be valid, even when not in accordance with the provisions of earlier Ordinances on the same subject ; while, on the other hand, a similar proviso would have been introduced, (which it is not,) into the other sub-sections of the 3rd section of the Ordinance, had it been intended, similarly to limit the powers conferred by these sub-sections.

An Ordinance will be introduced amending the Carriers' Ordinance. The Amending Ordinance will give revenue officers the power to suspend or to cancel cart and boat licenses in the case of the misconduct of the carrier in the discharge of his duties. It will also require cartmen and boatmen to take out licenses. And it will further provide that where a whole cart or boat is engaged by a consignor, a ticket shall be handed to him by the carrier to be sent to the consignee. In the event of the goods contracted to be carried being conveyed to their destination, and delivered, in terms of the contract as regards the route prescribed, the time stipulated for the journey, and the condition of the goods, the ticket is to be returned by the consignee to the carrier who will then be free to again let out his cart or boat for hire. But if the contract be broken in respect of any of the said conditions, the consignee will be at liberty to keep the ticket and thereby throw the cart or boat out of employment, as offering a cart or boat for hire without tendering the ticket is made illegal by the Ordinance. Consignees and consignors will thus have ample protection in their own hands, and the due carriage of estate produce sent to Colombo, and of supplies sent up to the estates, will be secured more simply and efficiently than is practicable under the cart registration scheme, which has been admitted to be powerless to prevent carriers from deviating from the stipulated route. The system of cart registration by the Police, which is one skilfully devised, and which has to a great extent effected its purpose, must be abandoned. It will, I trust, be rendered unnecessary by the operation of the Amending Ordinance, but, in any case, as after a fair trial at a considerable cost to the general revenue for a number of years, it has been found that the parties interested only avail themselves of it in respect of one cart out of every four, it would be manifestly unjust that the cart traffic on a particular road should be protected and fostered, not at the expense of those chiefly interested, but at that of the people generally.

An Ordinance for the better management of the Crown Forests is in course of preparation, framed in general accordance with the recommendations contained in Mr. Vincent's Report. Much reference and consultation with local authorities is requisite before the draft can be submitted to you, but I hope it may not be so long delayed as to render its consideration by you impossible during the present session.

I also propose to introduce an Ordinance to give to certain other agricultural products much of the protection which is now exclusively afforded to the cultivation of coffee.

The Commission which I appointed to enquire into certain abuses alleged to exist in the Minor Courts of the Island, has not yet sent in its Report. I have directed that when received it should be at once laid before you.

Though I have spent the better part of a year among you, my position is still to a great extent that of a spectator and observer. I have on this occasion strictly confined myself to a notice of the legislative and financial measures which I propose to bring before you, and questions which may be dealt with at once or in the not remote future. I have abstained from any attempt to generalize or to discuss plans or reforms not at present susceptible of accomplishment. But it is not amiss that we should bear in mind objects which are in themselves desirable and towards which we should aim. Their realization may be at present wholly impossible, but we should take care so to act as not to render it more difficult in the future. For example, although our own energies are severely taxed in the effort to provide a small amount of Railway Extension, we should remember that the Railway System of the Island cannot be considered complete until communication exists between Colombo and all the principal out-stations,—Trincomalee, Jaffna, Galle, and Batticaloa.

Again, though our attention may for the time be more than fully occupied in the endeavour to restore the water-supply of districts already populated, or which are certain at once to become so when again capable of cultivation, the work of irrigation will not be complete until vast tracts of now waste land bear again the harvests which once they bore, and are again the homes of dense population, introduced in the first instance, if need be, by the aid of Government itself.

I mention these two subjects because they have already been referred to by me in connection with practical action, but there are many other matters in which present needs will be all the better served by not shutting out the contemplation of even the distant future.

In conclusion, I have only to express the hope that our deliberations during the present Session may be marked by the same good temper, courtesy, and moderation which were displayed at our last meeting, and which I am happy to believe are characteristic of the Legislative Council of Ceylon.

3. His Excellency the Governor having retired, the chair was taken by the Hon. the Major-General.

4. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.—The Colonial Secretary moved that the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech:—The Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. the Government Agent, Central Province, the Hon. the Surveyor-General, the Hon. P. Rámna-Náthan, the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

Seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg.—Carried.

5. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers:—

Administration Reports, Part I.—Revenue.
Do. Part III.—Judicial.
Do. Part IV.—Miscellaneous: Royal Botanic Gardens, Public Instruction, Post and Telegraphs, Railways, Museum, and Registration.
Sessional Paper I. of 1884.—Correspondence relating to the proposed road from the Railway terminus at Nánu-oya to Haputalé Gap.
Do II. do. —Report on the proposed Graving Dock at Colombo, by Sir J. Coode.
Do. III. do. —Thefts of Estate Produce: Return to an Order of the Legislative Council, dated 11th February, 1884.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned to Wednesday, the 22nd October, 1884, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 22nd October, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. In the absence of His Excellency the Governor, the Major-General took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.

3. The Hon. J. VanLangenberg gave notice of the following motion:—

To move that a respectful Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, expressive of the strong approval by this Council of the prompt and decisive action taken by His Excellency in guaranteeing on behalf of the Government the notes of the Oriental Bank Corporation in circulation in this Island upon the suspension of payment by the Bank.

4. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.—The Government Agent, Western Province, brought up the reply of the Council to the Address of His Excellency the Governor, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The Government Agent moved the adoption of the Draft Address.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Rámna-Náthan.—Carried.

5. His Excellency the Governor having arrived, took the chair.

6. The Major-General read the Address of the Council in reply to the Governor's Speech:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

1. The Legislative Council tender to Your Excellency their thanks for your Address and for the clear statement of policy therein set forth.

2. They are glad to find that the revenue for the month of September justifies the hope that the Estimate of Revenue for 1884 will be reached, and trust that a continuance of the vigilant economy hitherto exercised will result in an excess of Receipts over Expenditure at the end of the year.

3. The Council note with satisfaction the increase in the exports of Tea, Cinchona, and Cacao. The large extent of land now being annually planted with Tea gives promise of a return to that condition of prosperity which has of late years been denied to the Planting Community, and which, while it lasted, contributed so largely to the available resources of the Colony.

4. The Council are fully sensible of the serious calamity which the failure of the Oriental Bank Corporation threatened to bring upon the Colony, and they are persuaded that much misery and possible disturbance were averted by the bold and prompt action taken by Your Excellency in guaranteeing the notes of the Corporation. They thank your Excellency for having assumed this responsibility, which appears to them to have been justified by grave necessity; and whilst they trust that there may be no serious deficit to provide for eventually, they are prepared

to consider any measure that may be requisite, to meet the obligation which Your Excellency has incurred in anticipation of their concurrence.

5. The consent of the Imperial Treasury to a State Note issue is also a matter for congratulation.

6. Your Excellency's sympathy with the Planting Community, and desire to aid them within legitimate limits, are fully shared by this Council, and any justifiable measure for giving effect thereto will receive their best attention.

7. The Council will consider with care the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 1885, when laid before them, as well as the Message which Your Excellency has been pleased to promise.

8. It is with great satisfaction the Council learn that Her Majesty's Government has agreed to a further large reduction of the Military Vote, and that the Garrison of the Island will probably be maintained at its present strength in the interests of the Imperial Government. The Council gratefully acknowledge their indebtedness to Your Excellency for the settlement of a long-pending grievance

9. The question of additional taxation is one of very grave importance, and the Council will duly consider any measures submitted to them with this object.

10. On the subject of Railway Extension to Uva, the Council concur with Your Excellency as to the route to be taken and the point to be reached. They however greatly regret the necessity for postponing so important a work.

11. The extension of the Southern Railway to Bentota, and hereafter to Galle, commends itself to the Council.

12. The Council agree with Your Excellency as to the importance of economising the water supply of the country, and the necessity for beneficial irrigation works; if funds can be made available, and if the probability of a fair return, either in money or in advantages to the people, can be satisfactorily shown.

13. The various amendments of existing Ordinances mentioned by Your Excellency, as also any other Legislative measures which may be submitted to this Council, will receive careful consideration.

14. The Council assure Your Excellency of their hearty desire to discuss in a loyal and liberal spirit all subjects which may be brought before them.

7. H. E. the Governor replied as follows :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

I thank you for your Address and for the assurance of cordial co-operation which it contains.

8. Papers.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

Administration Reports, Part II.—Scientific : Public Works and Survey.
Do. Part IV.—Miscellaneous : Medical.

Sessional Paper IV. of 1884.—Report on Tidal Waves in Ceylon resulting from the eruptions in the Straits of Sunda in August, 1883.

Do. V. do. —Report on the practicability of a Tramway between Kandy and Badulla.

Do. VI. do. —Statement showing (I.) the Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained, (II.) the total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1883, including the balances of all lapsed votes to that date, and (III.) the balance of the Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1883.

Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 24 of 18th January, acknowledging receipt of copies of the Address of the Legislative Council in answer to the Speech delivered by the Governor on opening the Session of 1883.

Letter from Mr. J. A. Swettenham of 10th March, acknowledging copy of the Resolution of the Legislative Council of 4th March, and expressing his respectful acknowledgment of the honour done him by the Council.

9. Questions and Notices of Motions.—The following notices of questions and notices of motions were then given :—

The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

To ask what steps the Government propose to take for providing the Pundalu-oya Valley estates with an outlet whereby goods may be conveyed to and from the Wattégoda railway station.

The Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

To ask for full details showing how a saving of more than Rs. 51,000 a year has been effected by the present traffic arrangements on the Mátalé Railway line, as stated to the Deputation to His Excellency the Governor on the 12th of last month, and to move for papers.

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.

To ask what the intentions of the Government are with respect to the Civil Procedure Code Bill, and to move for papers.

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.

To ask what progress has been made in bringing into operation the Registration of Titles to Land Ordinance (No. 5 of 1877) since the vote of Rs. 5,000 was taken for 1883, and to move for papers.

The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS.

To call attention to the petition presented to this Council on the 4th February last, signed by 3,150 inhabitants of Síduwa and its adjoining villages, praying that the bridge across the canal on the road leading from Síduwa and Henaratgoda may be replaced; and to move that early steps may be taken to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

10. BILL RELATING TO CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorized to be raised by the Government of Ceylon, and to provide for the creation of Ceylon Inscribed Stock," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

11. BILL TO AMEND THE INSOLVENT ORDINANCE, 1853.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Treasurer, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 7 of 1853, intituled 'An Ordinance for regulating the due collection, administration, and distribution of Insolvent Estates,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

12. BILL TO AMEND THE CEMETERIES ORDINANCE, 1862.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 12 of 1862, intituled 'An Ordinance for the establishment of General Cemeteries,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

13. BILL TO APPOINT L. F. MEERWALD A NOTARY PUBLIC.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Treasurer, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the Governor to appoint L. F. Meerwald to the office of Notary in this Island" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

14. BILL FOR THE PROTECTION OF WELLS AND ARTIFICIAL PITS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the due protection of Wells and Artificial Pits in this Colony" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

15. BILL AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English Language is taught" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

16. BILL TO AMEND THE ROAD ORDINANCE, 1861.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Thoroughfares in this Colony,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. BILL TO AMEND THE EMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1882.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1882, intituled 'An Ordinance relating to the Emigration of Native Labourers from this Island under Contract of Service'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

18. BILL TO AMEND THE CARRIERS ORDINANCE, 1865.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 14 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance relating to the registration and licensing of Carts, Boats, and Coaches, used for the conveyance of Goods and Passengers, and for declaring the rights and liabilities of the owners thereof,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned to Wednesday, the 29th October, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 29th October, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Major-General took the chair.

2. MEMBER SWORN.—The oath of allegiance was taken by the Hon. R. B. Downall on taking his seat in Council for the first time.

3. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.

4. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

The Revised Code for Aided Schools, 1885.

Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 288 of 29th September, 1884, relative to the enactment of an Ordinance for extending for a further period of six months the operation of Ordinance No. 7 of 1881.

5. The following notices of motions were then given —

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.

To call attention to the present state of the Law relating to the recovery of loans upon mortgage of lands, and to ask what measures the Government intend to take in order to redress the grievances complained of.

The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS.

To ask whether the necessary inquiries have been made by Government, as promised during the last Sessions of this Council, with the view of amending the Cattle Trespass Ordinance, No. 9 of 1876, in certain respects; and to move for papers.

6. OUTLET TO THE PUNDALU-OYA VALLEY ESTATES.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked what steps the Government propose to take for providing the Pundalu-oya Valley estates with an outlet, whereby goods may be conveyed to and from the Watté-goda railway station.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

7. ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR.—The Hon. J. VanLangenberg, pursuant to notice, moved that a respectful Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, expressive of the strong approval by this Council of the prompt and decisive action taken by His Excellency in guaranteeing on behalf of the Government the notes of the Oriental Bank Corporation in circulation in this Island upon the suspension of payment by the Bank.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

Carried.

The Hon. J. VanLangenberg, seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, then moved that the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to draw up the draft Address :—

The Surveyor-General.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

Carried.

8. MÁTALÉ RAILWAY LINE.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, pursuant to notice, asked for full details showing how a saving of more than Rs. 51,000 a year has been effected by the present traffic arrangements on the Mátalé railway line, as stated to the Deputation to His Excellency the Governor on the 12th of last month; and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall.

The Colonial Secretary replied, and laid on the table papers furnishing the information asked for.

9. CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE BILL.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked what the intentions of the Government are with respect to the Civil Procedure Code Bill.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

10. REGISTRATION OF TITLES TO LAND ORDINANCE.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, by leave of the Council, postponed making till next week the motion on this subject appearing in his name in the Order of the Day.

11. ROAD LEADING FROM SI'DUWA AND HENARATGODA.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis, by leave of the Council, postponed to a future date the motion on this subject appearing in his name in the Order of the Day.

The Council then adjourned till the arrival of the Governor.

12. His Excellency the Governor having arrived, took the chair.

13. MESSAGE BY THE GOVERNOR.—The Colonial Secretary brought up a Message by the Governor on the Estimates for the year 1885, and moved that it be read by the Clerk of the Council.

Read accordingly.

14. BILL AMENDING ROAD ORDINANCE, 1861.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Government Agent, Central Province, the Hon. J. Van-Langenberg, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

15. BILL TO AMEND CARRIERS ORDINANCE, 1865.—The Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, moved that this Bill be read a second time.

The Hon. R. B. Downall, seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, moved that the debate on the motion for second reading of the Bill do stand adjourned till this day four weeks.

Amendment carried. [*Note.*—Hon. Mr. Downall to resume debate on the 26th November.]

16. BILL TO AUTHORIZE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS.—The Colonial Secretary, by leave of the Council, postponed the second reading of this Bill.

17. BILL RELATING TO CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon R. A. Bosanquet.

18. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the power of the Governor in or with the advice of the Executive Council to alter or repeal Regulations made under certain Ordinances," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

19. ESTIMATES OF 1885.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Draft Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for 1885.

20. The Colonial Secretary gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would move the first reading of the following Bill :—

"An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency."

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 5th November, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 5th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Major-General took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.

3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

Despatches from the Secretary of State, Nos 150 and 287 of 12th May and 27th September, 1884, respectively, on the subject of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1884.

Statement showing in detail the amount of labour performed and money paid under the Ordinance No. 10 of 1861, during the year 1883.

Numerical Abstracts showing the number of persons in the several Provinces in the Island liable to perform labour under the Ordinance No. 10 of 1861 during the year 1884.

Statement showing the amount of schedule fees recovered by the Fiscals of the several Provinces, under clause 16 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1867, during the quarters ended 30th June, 30th September, 31st December, 1883, and 31st March and 30th June, 1884.

A Report and Return by the Auditor-General on the subject of the Railway Construction Accounts and charges which have to be defrayed therefrom.

With Regard to this Report and Return, the Colonial Secretary said that at the next meeting of Council he would propose on behalf of Government a resolution giving effect to the proposals of the Auditor-General.

4. ADDRESS TO THE GOVERNOR.—The Surveyor-General brought up the Address of the Council to the Governor, and moved that it be read by the Clerk of the Council.

Seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg.

Read accordingly.

5. The following notices of question and motions were then given :—

The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS.

To ask whether Mudaliyárs, Muhandirams, and other principal headmen, drawing not less than Rs. 300 a year as salary, are paid their travelling allowances when they travel on duty beyond their respective divisions, and when the distances are more than five miles from their residences; and if they are not paid, why they are not paid.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

To move that the outstanding expenditure of Rs. 168,765·15, on account of the Mátalé Railway, and the charges advanced on account of the survey beyond Nánu-oya, amounting to Rs. 44,480·73, be charged to the Railway Construction Fund, and that the balance of that Fund which will then remain—viz., Rs. 46,479·88—be transferred to revenue.

The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET.

To move for the correspondence which has passed between the Government and the Director of Public Instruction regarding the reduction of Grants-in-aid to the English schools.

The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET.

To ask if the Government has any intention of defining what Crown forests may be regarded as available for public sale, and what in future they propose to treat as Reserves, on account of climatic considerations or for fuel; and to move for papers.

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.

To ask why Post Office Savings Banks have not yet been established in Ceylon; and to move for papers.

6. The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, by leave of the Council, withdrew the following motion appearing in his name in the Order of the Day:—

To call attention to the present state of the Law relating to the recovery of loans upon mortgage of lands, and to ask what measures the Government intend to take in order to redress the grievances complained of.

7. CATTLE TRESPASS ORDINANCE, No. 9 OF 1879.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis, pursuant to notice, asked whether the necessary inquiries have been made by Government, as promised during the last Sessions of this Council, with the view of amending the Cattle Trespass Ordinance No. 9 of 1876, in certain respects; and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

The Colonial Secretary replied, and laid on the table the papers called for.

8. His Excellency the Governor having arrived, took the chair.

9. GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.—The Hon. J VanLangenberg, pursuant to notice, moved for correspondence connected with the Circular No. 4 of 2nd April, 1884, of the Director of Public Instruction to the Managers of Grant-in-aid Schools, regarding the certificates required of the principal Teachers of English boys' and girls' schools.

Seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Colonial Secretary replied, and laid the papers on the table.

10. SUPPLY BILL FOR 1885.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1885" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council

11. BILL RELATING TO CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK.—The Attorney-General brought up the Report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill as amended, the Report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

12. GOVERNMENT PAPER CURRENCY BILL. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

13. FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for further continuing the Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled 'An Ordinance to make temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail Steamers within the ports of this Colony,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

14. BILL TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO VILLAGE COMMUNITIES AND VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

15. BILL TO AMEND THE INSOLVENT ORDINANCE, 1853.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for the next meeting.

16. BILL TO AMEND THE CEMETERIES ORDINANCE, 1862.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. BILL TO APPOINT L. F. MEERWALD A NOTARY PUBLIC.—The Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, moved that the Bill be read a second time.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Surveyor-General.	The Hon. R. B. Downall.
The Government Agent, Western Province.	The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.
The Treasurer.	The Hon. A. L. De Alwis.
The Auditor-General.	The Hon. F. M. Mackwood.
The Attorney-General.	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.
The Colonial Secretary.	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.
The Major-General.	

Ayes, 7; Noes, 6; Majority, 1.—Motion carried.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Committee having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and the third reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

18. BILL FOR THE PROTECTION OF WELLS AND ARTIFICIAL PITS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed to next meeting.

19. BILL TO AMEND EMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1882.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

20. BILL TO REPEAL REGULATIONS MADE UNDER CERTAIN ORDINANCES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendment, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 12th November, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 12th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.

3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers:—

Circular addressed by the Director of Public Instruction to Inspectors of Schools. (Laid on the table of the Legislative Council in terms of clause 10 of the Revised Code for 1885.)

Report of the Commission appointed for the purpose of making enquiry into and reporting on the abuses which are alleged to exist in the working of the Minor Courts of this Island.

4. TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES OF MUDALIYÁRS AND HEADMEN.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis, pursuant to notice, asked whether Mudaliyárs, Muhandirams, and other principal headmen, drawing not less than Rs. 300 a year as salary, are paid their travelling allowances when they travel on duty beyond their respective divisions, and when the distances are more than five miles from their residences; and if they are not paid, why they are not paid.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

5. OUTSTANDING EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF THE MÁTALÉ RAILWAY AND ON ACCOUNT OF THE SURVEY BEYOND NÁNU-OYA.—The Colonial Secretary, pursuant to notice, moved that the outstanding expenditure of Rs. 168,765 15, on account of the Mátalé Railway, and the charges advanced on account of the survey beyond Nánu-oya, amounting to Rs. 44,480·93, be charged to the Railway Construction Fund, and that the balance of that Fund which will then remain—viz., Rs. 46,479·88—be transferred to revenue.

Seconded by the Attorney-General.

Debate on motion adjourned till next meeting of Council on Wednesday, 19th instant.

6. REGISTRATION OF TITLES TO LAND ORDINANCE.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked what progress has been made in bringing into operation the Registration of Titles to Land Ordinance (No. 5 of 1877) since the vote of Rs. 5,000 was taken for 1883; and moved for papers.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

7. GRANTS-IN-AID TO ENGLISH SCHOOLS.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, moved for the correspondence which has passed between the Government and the Director of Public Instruction regarding the reduction of Grants-in-aid to the English schools.

Séconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Colonial Secretary replied, and laid papers on the table.

8. CROWN FORESTS.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked if the Government has any intention of defining what Crown forests may be regarded as available for public sale, and what in future they propose to treat as reserves, on account of climatic considerations or for fuel; and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

9. BILL RELATING TO CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

10. BILL TO AMEND CEMETERIES ORDINANCE, 1862.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

11. BILL TO APPOINT L. F. MEERWALD A NOTARY PUBLIC.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

12. BILL TO AMEND EMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1882.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

13. BILL TO REPEAL REGULATIONS MADE UNDER CERTAIN ORDINANCES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

14. BILL TO AMEND THE INSOLVENT ORDINANCE, 1853.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

15. BILL FOR THE PROTECTION OF WELLS AND ARTIFICIAL PITS.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

16. SUPPLY BILL, 1885.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Central Province, Messrs. VanLangenberg, Ráma-Náthan and Downall.

17. BILL TO AUTHORIZE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, Messrs. VanLangenberg, De Alwis, and Bosanquet.

18 GOVERNMENT PAPER CURRENCY BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Government Agent, Western Province, Messrs. Ráma-Náthan, Mackwood, and Bosanquet.

19. FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

20. BILL TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO VILLAGE COMMUNITIES AND VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.—The Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, moved that the Bill be read a second time.

The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, seconded by the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, moved that the second reading be adjourned to next meeting of Council.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. R. B. Downall.	The Surveyor-General.
The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.	The Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis.	The Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. F. M. Mackwood.	The Treasurer.
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.	The Auditor-General.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Attorney-General.
The Colonial Secretary.	The Major-General.
His Excellency the Governor.	

Ayes, 8; Noes, 7; Majority, 1.—Motion carried.

21. BILL TO AUTHORIZE A LOAN FOR THE REDEMPTION OF O. B. C. NOTES GUARANTEED BY GOVERNMENT.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for the raising by Debentures or Ceylon Inscribed Stock a sum not exceeding £160,000 sterling, to be applied to the redemption of such Oriental Bank Notes as were guaranteed by the Government of this Colony" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

Monday, 17th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Major-General took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.
3. The Council then proceeded to Queen's House for the purpose of presenting an Address to His Excellency the Governor.
4. The Major-General read the following Address of the Council to His Excellency the Governor:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

IN pursuance of a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th day of October last, the Council desire to place upon record, more prominently than was possible in their reply to Your Excellency's Address at the opening of the Session, their hearty concurrence in, and strong approval of, the action which Your Excellency was pleased to take on the emergency of the failure of the Oriental Bank Corporation.

On the 3rd day of May, 1884, this Bank which, with its wide-spread ramifications throughout Ceylon and the East, had had a prosperous career for 33 years, closed its doors. Prior to that event, notes under its issue were in circulation in the Island to the nominal value of Rs. 3,211,085; while those of the only other Bank with a note currency, the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, were represented by Rs. 921,495. This note currency, aided by a per-centage of silver and copper coins, constituted the means for carrying on the cash transactions of the Island, including not merely the retail operations of trade, industry, and agriculture, but also the affairs of Government.

When, therefore, the notes of the Oriental Bank Corporation, which formed a very important factor in our currency, were suddenly deprived of value, the panic among all classes of the community was immediate and severe. Taxes could not be collected, Courts of Justice approached, labour employed, nor even provisions bought, without considerable difficulty.

The Council believe that never before in the financial history of the Island did an occasion arise in which a Governor was so urgently called upon to exercise his judgment and discretion as at this crisis; and they are of opinion that had Your Excellency, on behalf of the Government, not intervened with promptitude, and devised some measure to arrest the growing panic and to restore confidence, the consequences to the country might have been most serious.

The wisdom of the course which Your Excellency elected to take, in transferring to the Colonial Exchequer the obligations of the insolvent Bank in respect of its notes then in circulation in the Island, is fully appreciated by the Council. They consider that in a crisis so momentous and so sudden in its incidence, it was impracticable, if not impossible, to summon them for deliberation and to obtain their formal assent. They cordially endorse the statesmanlike policy of Your Excellency in assuming the responsibility of dealing with the danger that threatened the whole community,—a course of procedure which, in their opinion, has justly merited the gratitude of the country.

5. His Excellency the Governor replied as follows:—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

I AM deeply grateful to you for your Address.

Its presentation is not the mere decorous performance of an annual ceremony, but a voluntary expression of thanks, which would not be tendered if they were not generally and sincerely felt by you.

But while I accept your thanks, and will not make so insincere a profession as to affect wholly to disclaim them, you must permit me, in acknowledging them, to associate with myself others who also deserve your approval. My own part in this matter cannot be separated from that taken by those Members of my Executive Council who advised my action, and whose assistance gave it efficiency.

Time has only strengthened my conviction that no guarantee except that of the Government could have maintained the circulation of the notes of the Oriental Bank in this Colony during the last six months. Ampler information has only given me more abundant proof that their withdrawal from circulation would have led to calamities of which it would have been difficult to foresee the end. For those calamities I should have considered myself in a great degree responsible, had I allowed any feeling of timidity, or any fear of personal consequences, to divert me from the course which, in the exercise of my deliberate judgment, I felt to be that which the welfare of the Colony required me to pursue.

I thank you more especially for the kind and generous words you have used with respect to my having acted in this instance without first obtaining the benefit of your advice, and the

authoritative sanction of your consent. You rightly assume that the case was too urgent to admit of such preliminary consultation; but I am glad to have this opportunity of publicly explaining why I did not subsequently call you together to ratify my act. I should have preferred to do so, and it had been my first intention. But you would then naturally and rightly have questioned me as to the mode in which I proposed to redeem the guarantee, and the period at which I proposed doing so.

To have replied, as at that time I should have been obliged to reply, that I was unable to say in what manner, or at what time, such redemption would be effected, might have seriously shaken that confidence which it was essential to maintain.

So soon as I was in a position to state that Her Majesty's Government had assented to the redemption of the guarantee by the issue of a Government Paper Currency, I lost no time in summoning you to meet me.

The consciousness of having been useful to others ought perhaps to be in itself a sufficient source of satisfaction; but it is impossible that the pleasure derived from such a reflection should not be heightened by such recognition of the service as it has been my good fortune to receive.

I have been greatly touched and flattered by the thanks accorded to me in all places, and from all classes of the community, and which now find their highest expression in your present Address.

The honour you have conferred on me is the highest you can bestow, and it is regarded by me as among the most distinguished which I could here receive. It will be remembered by me with pride and thankfulness for the remainder of my life, and your Address will be preserved among the most valued records of my connection with Ceylon.

6. The Council having resumed its sitting, the Major-General moved that the Address and Reply be recorded in the Minutes of Council. Ordered accordingly. The Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 19th November, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 19th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. MEMBER SWORN.—The oath of allegiance was taken by the Hon. G. W. Paterson on taking his seat in Council for the first time.
3. Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.
4. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Papers:—

   Despatches to and from the Secretary of State on the subject of the Draft of an Ordinance for the establishment of a Government Paper Currency in this Colony.

   Sessional Paper IX. of 1884.—Papers on the subject of Public Instruction in Ceylon.

   Sessional Paper X of 1884.—Return of Irrigation Works executed in the several Provinces of the Island from 1868 to 30th June, 1883.

5. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced to the Council that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the following Ordinances:—

   "An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorized to be raised by the Government of Ceylon, and to provide for the creation of Ceylon Inscribed Stock."

   "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 12 of 1862, entitled 'An Ordinance for the establishment of General Cemeteries.'"

6. PETITIONS.—The Hon. J. VanLangenberg presented two petitions: one from the inhabitants of Moratuwa objecting to certain provisions of the proposed Draft of an Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Gansabhâwas; and the other from a large number of Catholic taxpayers of the Municipality of Colombo and within the town of Galle, praying for the disallowance or amendment of the proposed Draft of an Ordinance allowing Municipal Councils and Local Boards to take over certain English schools; and moved that they be read by the Clerk of the Council. Read accordingly.
7. NOTICE OF QUESTION AND MOTION.—The following notices of question and motion were then given:—

   The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET.

   To ask the Government if they propose to continue in 1885 the same scale of grants-in-aid to English schools as that allowed to those schools in 1884; and if not, to inquire the reason for any proposed change.

   To move that it is not desirable to reduce the grants-in-aid to English high schools to the same rates as vernacular schools.

8. GRANTS-IN-AID TO ENGLISH SCHOOLS.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet having obtained leave of Council to amend the motion appearing in his name in the Order of the Day by the insertion of the word "high" before "schools," asked if the Government proposes to continue in 1885 the same scale of grants in aid to English high schools as that allowed in 1884; and, if not, the reason for any proposed change.

   The Colonial Secretary replied.

9. Railway Construction Fund.—The Council resumed the debate on the following motion :—

"That the outstanding expenditure of Rs. 168,765·15, on account of the Mátalé Railway, and the charges advanced on account of the survey beyond Nánu-oya, amounting to Rs. 44,480·93, be charged to the Railway Construction Fund, and that the balance of that Fund which will then remain—viz., Rs. 46,479·88—be transferred to revenue."

The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall, moved as an amendment that all the words after "Railway Construction" be omitted.

Amendment agreed to.

10. Pettah Riots.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, pursuant to notice moved that the Police and any other official reports upon the recent riots in the Pettah be laid on the table.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

11. Bill to amend the Insolvent Ordinance, 1853.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 17th instant, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was re-committed for inserting amendments, and the Bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

12. Bill for the protection of Wells and Artificial Pits.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred back to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

13. French Mail Steamers Bill.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 17th instant, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.

14. Bill to amend the Law relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals.—The Council in Committee resumed discussion of the motion for the second reading of the Bill. The Council having divided on the motion (ayes 8, noes 6), the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Government Agent, Central Province, Mr. VanLangenberg, Mr. Alwis, and Mr. Mackwood

15. Bill to authorize a Loan for the redemption of Oriental Bank Corporation Notes guaranteed by Government.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted. On the motion of Mr. Mackwood, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Standing Orders of Council were suspended, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

16. Bill to amend the Ordinance No. 11 of 1884.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 11 of 1884, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants to be attached by a stamp,'" was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. Bill to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony" was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

18. Kandy Waterworks Loan Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Treasurer, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Kandy Waterworks Loan Ordinance, 1884," was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 26th instant, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 26th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.
3. Coffee Stealing Ordinance : Agricultural Products.—Hon. R. B. Downall pursuant to notice asked if it is the intention of Government to continue the Coffee Stealing Ordinance for another year, or if an Ordinance "to give to certain other agricultural products much of the protection which is now exclusively afforded to the cultivation of coffee," will be introduced to meet the requirements of agricultural products generally.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

4. GRANTS-IN-AID TO ENGLISH SCHOOLS.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked for the complete correspondence between the Government and the Director of Public Instruction, in place of the extracts which were laid on the Table on the 12th November.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

5. GRANTS-IN-AID TO ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOLS.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, moved that it is not desirable to reduce the grants-in-aid to English High Schools to the same rates as Vernacular Schools.

Seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED ON THE MOTION :

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.	The Hon. R. B. Downall.
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis.	The Surveyor-General.
The Hon. F. M. Mackwood.	The Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.	The Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Treasurer.
	The Auditor-General.
	The Attorney-General.
	The Colonial Secretary.
	The Major-General.

Ayes, 5 ; Noes, 9 ; Majority against the motion, 4.—Motion lost.

6. CART REGISTRATION, COLOMBO-UVA ROAD.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, moved, in accordance with the very strongly expressed opinions of those interested, that the Government be asked to continue the system of cart registration on the Colombo-Uva road, and to take the necessary measures to provide that the cost thereof be defrayed by the proceeds of a toll on the road, and to order that an Ordinance, if required for this purpose, be prepared accordingly ; and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

Upon the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Treasurer, Mr. Downall's motion was referred for consideration to a Select Committee consisting of the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, and the Hon. R. B. Downall.

7. DELAYS TO PASSENGER TRAINS BETWEEN COLOMBO AND TALÁWAKELÉ : REFRESHMENT ROOM AT PÉRÁDENIYA.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, asked that steps may be taken to avoid the constant, and apparently unnecessary, delays to passenger trains between Colombo and Taláwakelé ; also, if any arrangements have been made for opening the refreshment room at Péradeniya, which was sanctioned in July last ; and moved for papers.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

8. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

Administration Reports, Part IV.—Miscellaneous : Government Printing Office.

Sessional Paper XIV. of 1884. Village Tribunals : A statement showing the Districts, Presidents, their salaries and staffs, and the number and nature of the cases disposed of, during the year 1883.

9. BILL FOR THE PROTECTION OF WELLS AND ARTIFICIAL PITS.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and, the report of the Law Officers on the amended Bill having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, read a third time and passed.

10. BILL TO AMEND THE CARRIERS' ORDINANCE, 1865.—The Council resumed discussion of the motion for the second reading of this Bill. Upon the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall, the further discussion of the Bill was adjourned till Wednesday, the 3rd December next.

11. BILL TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE NO. 11 OF 1884.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for Wednesday, the 3rd proximo.

12. BILL TO CONSOLIDATE STAMP DUTIES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

13. KANDY WATERWORKS LOAN AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading been fixed for the next meeting of Council.

14. BILL TO AMEND THE ROAD ORDINANCE, 1861.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was adjourned till Wednesday, the 3rd December.

15. SUPPLY BILL, 1885.—The Council in Committee resumed discussion on the Bill. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council adjourned the discussion on the Bill till Saturday, the 29th instant, at 2 o'clock P.M.

16. BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE OF GOVERNMENT PAPER CURRENCY.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the further discussion on the Bill was adjourned till Wednesday, the 3rd December.

17. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—BILL TO RE-ADJUST CUSTOMS DUTIES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bills severally intituled

> "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1884;" and
>
> "An Ordinance to re-adjust the Customs Duties leviable under Ordinances No. 17 of 1869 and No. 14 of 1871;"

were read a first time, and the second reading fixed for Wednesday, the 3rd December.

The Council adjourned till Saturday, the 29th November, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 29th November, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.
3. SUPPLY BILL, 1885.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the Report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 3rd proximo, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 3rd December, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting were read and confirmed.
3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following paper:

> Sessional Paper XV. of 1884.—Report by Mr. E. Elliott on the Commutation Settlement of the Hambantota District, Southern Province, under "The Grain Tax Ordinance, 1878."

4. PETITION.—The Hon. P. Rámanáthan presented a petition from the Colombo Bar on the subject of the Draft Ordinance to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony.

Petition read.

5. TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES TO NATIVE HEADMEN.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis gave notice that he will, at the next meeting of Council, move

> That in the opinion of this Council, native Headmen drawing not less than Rs. 300 a year as salary are, under the Minute of 27th February, 1875, entitled to their travelling allowances when they travel on duty beyond their respective divisions and when the distances are more than five miles from their residences.

6. PETITION FROM INHABITANTS OF SÍDUWA.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis, pursuant to notice, called attention to the petition presented to this Council on the 4th February last, signed by 3,150 inhabitants of Sídúwa and its adjoining villages, praying that the bridge across the canal on the road leading from Sídúwa and Henaratgoda may be replaced; and moved that early steps may be taken to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

7. SUPPLY BILL, 1885.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, moved that the Bill be re-committed for amendment. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

8. BILL TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE NO. 11 OF 1884.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Treasurer, read a third time and passed.

9. KANDY WATERWORKS LOAN AMENDMENT BILL.—The report of the Law Officers on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, read a third time and passed.

10. BILL TO AMEND THE ROAD ORDINANCE, 1861.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Committee having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

11. CURRENCY BILL.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and the third reading was fixed for next meeting of Council.

12. BILL TO AUTHORIZE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the Report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown for report, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

13. VILLAGE TRIBUNALS BILL.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown for report, and was set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

14. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time. The Council having gone into Committee, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Auditor-General, the Surveyor-General, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

15. BILL TO ADJUST CUSTOMS DUTIES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time. The Council having gone into Committee, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Hon. P Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

16. POSTAL BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Postal Ordinance, 1878," was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. PADDY CULTIVATION BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend "The Paddy Cultivation Ordinance, 1867," was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

18. FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.—On the motion of the Auditor-General, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making final provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1883," was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

19. BILL PROVIDING FOR THE TRIAL OF CERTAIN OFFENCES SUBSEQUENT TO THE TIME AT WHICH THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE SHALL COME INTO OPERATION.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to further provide for the trial of certain offences subsequent to the time at which 'The Criminal Procedure Code, 1883,' shall come into operation," was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

20. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 15 of 1884, intituled 'An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers in this Colony,'" was read a first time, the second reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 10th December, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 10th December, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.—The Colonial Secretary brought up a message from His Excellency the Governor regarding the necessity for the Ordinance to authorize the Governor to appoint Mr. Meerwald to the office of Notary Public. Message read.

4. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinances :—

Ordinance No. 21 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the Governor to appoint Leonard Frederick Meerwald to the Office of Notary in this Island.

Ordinance No. 22 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1882, intituled 'An Ordinance relating to the emigration of Native Labourers from this Island under Contract of Service.'"

Ordinance No. 23 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the power of the Governor, in or with the advice of the Executive Council, to alter or repeal Rules and Regulations made under certain Ordinances."

Ordinance No. 24 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 7 of 1853, intituled 'An Ordinance for regulating the due collection, administration and distribution of Insolvent Estates."

Ordinance No. 25 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for further continuing the Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled 'An Ordinance to make temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail Steamers within the ports of this Colony.'"

Ordinance No. 26 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for the raising by Debentures on Ceylon Inscribed Stock of a sum not exceeding £160,000 sterling to be applied to the redemption of such Oriental Bank Notes as were guaranteed by the Government of this Colony."

Ordinance No. 27 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the due protection of Wells and Artificial Pits in this Colony."

Ordinance No. 28 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1885."

Ordinance No. 29 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Kandy Waterworks Loan Ordinance, 1884.

Ordinance No. 30 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1884, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants to be attached by a Stamp.'"

5. MEMORIAL ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DRAFT ORDINANCE TO CONSOLIDATE THE STAMP DUTIES LEVIABLE IN THE COLONY.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet presented a memorial from the inhabitants of Kandy and the neighbouring districts on the above subject, and moved that it be read. The memorial was read.

6. MEMORIAL ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DRAFT STAMPS ORDINANCE.—The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the District of Mátara on the above subject.

7. COLONIAL EXHIBITION TO BE HELD IN LONDON IN 1886.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet gave notice that he should at the next meeting of Council ask what steps the Government propose to take to provide for the Colony being properly represented at the Colonial Exhibition to be held in London in 1886, and move for any correspondence that may have taken place with the Home Government in reference thereto.

8. TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE TO HEADMEN.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis pursuant to notice moved that, "in the opinion of this Council, native Headmen drawing not less than Rs. 300 a year as salary were, under the Minute of 27th February, 1875, entitled to their travelling allowances when they travelled on duty beyond their respective divisions, and when the distances were more than five miles from their residences," adding, by leave of Council, the words, "whether attending Kachchéries or otherwise."

Seconded by the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

9. VOTES FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.—The Hon. R. B. Downall pursuant to notice moved that in the opinion of this Council it was desirable that detailed information, and when possible estimates should be placed before the Council simultaneously with any proposed vote for irrigation works, and that the expenditure of such estimates should, when voted, be under the control of a Board constituted for that purpose and consisting of not less than three members. [*Note.*—The words after "Board" were altered to these by leave of the Council.]

Seconded by the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan.

The motion was agreed to.

10. BILL TO AMEND THE ROAD ORDINANCE, 1861.—The Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Attorney-General, that this Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The report of the Law Officers of the Crown having been read, the Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the Bill be read a third time and passed.

The Council divided on the motion : Ayes, 9 ; Noes, 4 ; Majority for motion, 5.—Motion carried

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan delivered a protest in writing signed by the Hon. J. Van-Langenberg, the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, against the passing of clauses 15 and 18 of the Bill.

Protest read and recorded.

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11. CURRENCY BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the Bill be read a third time and do pass.

Bill read a third time and passed.

12. SCHOOLS' BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. Report adopted. The report of the Law Officers on this Bill was read. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

13. VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' BILL.—The Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, moved that the Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. Report adopted. The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill was read. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

14. POSTAL BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time. The Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill as amended. The further consideration of the Bill was adjourned till next meeting of Council.

15 PADDY CULTIVATION BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time. The Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. The Council adjourned for the further consideration of the Bill till next meeting of Council.

16. FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883 —On the motion of the Auditor-General, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time. The Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Auditor-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

17. BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRIAL OF CERTAIN OFFENCES SUBSEQUENT TO THE TIME AT WHICH THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE, 1883, SHALL COME INTO OPERATION.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General reported the Bill with amendments. The report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

18. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Treasurer, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

19. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

20. CUSTOMS' BILL.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

21. BILL TO AMEND THE CARRIERS' ORDINANCE, 1865.—The Council having resumed consideration of this Bill, further adjourned the debate on the motion for the second reading of the Bill until next meeting.

22. TOLLS' BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to establish further Tolls and to discontinue certain Tolls," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 17th December, at 2·30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 17th December, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced the Governor's assent to the following Ordinances:—

Ordinance No. 31 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Thoroughfares in this Colony.'"

Ordinance No. 32 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency."

Ordinance No. 33 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English Language is taught."

Ordinance No. 34 of 1884; intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Laws relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals."

4. PAPER.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following paper :—

Sessional Paper XXI. of 1884.—Report by Captain J. Donnan on the Pearl Fishery off Chilaw.

5 PETITION.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan presented a petition from the inhabitants of the town of Galle on the subject of the Stamp Ordinance.

6. PETITION.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet presented a petition from the members of the Blue Ribbon Association of Kandy, praying that an increase of taxation may be imposed on Arrack coincident with and proportionate to the additional duty levied on imported Spirits and Wines.

7. NOTICES OF MOTIONS.—The following notices of motion were given :—

The Hon. R. B. DOWNALL.

To ask if it is the intention of Government to continue the Ordinance No 6 of 1872, and to move that, if such be the intention, it is desirable to repeal the same.

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.

To move for a statistical statement of the administration of justice in the District Courts and Courts of Requests of the Island, in the following respects, so far as they apply to such Courts :—

I.—The number of cases pending on 1st January, 1884, in

(*a*) The Ordinary Civil Jurisdiction, specifying—

1. The number of cases pending for *over* 5 years.
2. Do. do. for 5 years.
3. Do. do. 4 years.
4. Do. do. 3 years.
5. Do. do. 2 years.
6. Do. do. 1 year.

(*b*) The Matrimonial Jurisdiction.

(*c*) The Testamentary Jurisdiction, showing—

1. The number of Probate cases.
2. Do. Intestacy cases.
3. Do. Guardianship cases.

(*d*) The Insolvency Jurisdiction.

(*e*) Jurisdiction over Idiots and Lunatics.

(*f*) Criminal Jurisdiction.

II.—The number of cases instituted in 1884 *in the Ordinary Civil Jurisdiction of each Court* under the several classes of the cases, as provided in the Stamp Ordinance—

1. For or against the Crown.
2. On bonds and promissory notes.
3. For goods sold and delivered.
4. For money lent on unwritten promises.
5. For damages.
6. For rent.
7. For cattle trespass.
8. In ejectment, settlement of boundaries, possession, partition, and other claims to lands.
9. For hire and wages.
10. On miscellaneous causes.

III.—The number of cases decided after entry on Trial Roll—

(*a*) Upon evidence—

1. In contested cases.
2. In *ex parte* cases.

(*b*) Otherwise, as

1. By consent of parties.
2. Default
3. Arbitration.

IV.—The number of cases decided before entry on the Trial Roll.

V.—The number of appeals taken.

VI.—The number of decrees (1) affirmed, (2) modified, and (3) reversed in appeal.

VII.—The number of cases in which levies upon writs of execution have been made.

And to move that similar annual returns be furnished to this Council for 1885 and following years.

8. COLONIAL EXHIBITION TO BE HELD IN LONDON IN 1886.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked what steps the Government proposes to take to provide for the Colony being properly represented at the Colonial Exhibition to be held in London in 1886; and moved for any correspondence that may have taken place with the Home Government in reference thereto.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

9. RETURN OF IRRIGATION WORKS.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis, pursuant to notice, moved for a return showing the amount expended up to date in repairing or maintaining the Irrigation Works mentioned in the following schedule, from the time specified therein, showing a detailed account of the work done and the sums spent on each head :—

SCHEDULE.

1. Boralęsgamuwa Tank in the Western Province, from 30th June, 1869.
2. Openaika Aqueduct in Ratnapura, from 1880.
3. Walagoḍa Irrigation Channel in Ratnapura, from 1878.
4. Mágalawęwa in Kurunęgala, from 1875.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

10. DECREASE IN ARRACK REVENUE.—The Hon R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, moved that in view of the great decrease in the revenue derived from arrack during the last four years, an enquiry be made into the causes which have led to such decrease, and that steps be taken to ascertain whether there has been any, and what decrease in the quantity of arrack distilled, in the number of cocoanut trees appropriated to the production of toddy, and whether some other system of collecting the revenue could not be beneficially adopted in place of the present one of farming; and asked what measures Government propose to take in order to increase the duty on Colonial spirits, with the view to placing them on a par with imported spirits.

Seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

Motion by leave withdrawn.

11. FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Auditor-General moved, seconded by the Treasurer, that the Bill be read a third time and do pass.

Bill read a third time and passed.

12. BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRIAL OF CERTAIN OFFENCES SUBSEQUENT TO THE TIME AT WHICH THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE, 1883, SHALL COME INTO OPERATION.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Attorney-General moved, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, that the Bill be read a third time and do pass.

Bill read a third time and passed.

13. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND AMENDMENT BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Attorney-General moved, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, that the Bill be read a third time and do pass.

Bill read a third time and passed.

14. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the Bill be read a third time and do pass.

Bill read a third time and passed.

15. CUSTOMS BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Treasurer, that the Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. Report adopted. The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill was read. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Treasurer, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

16. POSTAL BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Auditor-General, that the Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. PADDY CULTIVATION BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved, seconded by the Treasurer, that the Bill be re-committed. Bill re-committed. The further consideration of the Bill was adjourned till Friday, the 19th instant.

18. TOLLS BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, the Bill was read a second time. The Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. The report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

19. BILL TO AMEND THE CARRIERS' ORDINANCE, 1865.—The further consideration of the Bill was adjourned till Friday, the 19th instant.

20. CONSOLIDATED STAMPS BILL.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The further consideration of the Bill by the Council in Committee was adjourned till next meeting of Council.

21. PRÆDIAL PRODUCE BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to further provide for the protection of Prædial Products," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Friday, the 19th December, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Friday, 19th December, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced His Excellency the Governor's assent to the following Ordinances :—

Ordinance No. 35 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for making final provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1883."

Ordinance No. 36 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to further provide for the trial of certain offences subsequent to the time at which 'The Criminal Procedure Code, 1883,' shall come into operation."

Ordinance No. 37 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 15 of 1884, intituled 'An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers in this Colony.'"

Ordinance No. 38 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1884."

Ordinance No. 39 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to re-adjust the Customs duties leviable under Ordinances No. 17 of 1869 and No. 14 of 1871."

4. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

1. Correspondence relating to the defence of Colonial Possessions and Garrisons abroad.
2. Circular Despatch from the Secretary of State on the subject of the Colonial Products Exhibition, 1886, with annexure.

5. ORDINANCE NO. 6 OF 1872.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, asked if it was the intention of Government to continue the Ordinance No. 6 of 1872, and moved that if such was the intention, it was desirable to repeal the same.

Seconded by the Hon A. L. De Alwis.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

Motion by leave withdrawn.

6. STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN THE DISTRICT COURTS AND COURTS OF REQUESTS OF THE ISLAND.—The Hon. R. A Bosanquet obtained leave of Council to postpone till next meeting the motion on this subject appearing in the Order of the Day in the name of the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

7. POSTAL BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

8. TOLLS BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on this Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, read a third time and passed.

9. PADDY CULTIVATION BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading on the 22nd December.

10. CART REGISTRATION.—The Select Committee brought up their report on the Hon. Mr. Downall's motion of the 26th November, on the subject of cart registration on the Colombo Uva road. Report read.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the order, "Council to resume debate on motion for second reading of the Bill intituled 'An Ordinance to amend No. 14 of 1865, intituled An Ordinance relating to the registration and licensing of Carts, Boats, and Coaches used for the conveyance of Goods and Passengers, and for declaring the rights and liabilities of the owners thereof,'" was discharged.

11. CONSOLIDATED STAMPS BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary reported the Bill with amendments. Report adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

12. PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. In Committee, on the motion of the Attorney-General, the Bill was referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Attorney-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Surveyor-General, the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, and the Hon. R. B. Downall.

The Council adjourned till Monday, the 22nd December, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 22nd December, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinances :—

   Ordinance No. 40 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Postal Ordinance, 1878."

   Ordinance No. 41 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to establish further Tolls and to discontinue certain Tolls."

4. PAPER.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following paper :—

   Despatch from the Secretary of State on the subject of the Crown's priority of claim in the liquidation of the Oriental Bank Corporation.

5. STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CIVIL JUSTICE.—The Hon. P. Rámanáthan, by leave of Council, withdrew the motion on this subject standing in his name in the Order of the Day.

6. PADDY CULTIVATION BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Treasurer, read a third time and passed.

7. CONSOLIDATED STAMPS BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, moved that the Bill be read a third time and passed. The Council having divided on the motion Ayes 7, Noes 4, Majority 3—the motion was carried. Bill read a third time and passed.

8. FOREST BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance relating to Forests and Waste Lands, and to the felling and transport of Timber," was read a first time, and set down for second reading at the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, the 8th January, 1885, at 2.30 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 8th January, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

3. LIBELS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet gave notice that he should, at next meeting of Council, ask "if the Government intends to prosecute the publisher of the *Ceylon News*, or to take any official notice of the gross libels upon the administration of Justice which have from time to time been published in that paper;" and should move "for any correspondence which may have passed between the Government and the Attorney-General's Department in reference thereto."

4. PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood gave notice that he will at next meeting of Council move that the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan be put upon the Sub-Committee on the Prædial Products Bill.

5. FOREST BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. In Committee the Bill was referred to a Sub-Committeé consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Government Agent of the Western Province, the Surveyor-General, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, and the Hon. R. B. Downall. Five members to be a quorum.

6. BILL PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION AND REGISTRATION OF COPIES OF BOOKS PRINTED IN CEYLON.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the preservation of copies of Books printed in Ceylon, and for the registration of such Books," was read a first time, and set down for second reading at the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Monday, the 19th January, 1885, at 2.30 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 19th January, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

3. PAPER.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following paper:—

   A Statement furnished by the Director of Public Works, giving the detailed expenditure in reference to the cost and maintenance of certain Irrigation Works in the Western Province. (Moved for by the Hon. A L. De Alwis.)

4. PETITION.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood presented a petition from the Rev. John Scott, General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Mission, South Ceylon District, on the subject of the provision of the Revised Code requiring scholars in Grant-in-Aid schools to be vaccinated. Petition read.

5. ORDINANCE 12 OF 1846.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet gave notice of the following question :—

   To ask if the Government proposes to repeal Ordinance No. 12 of 1846, being an Ordinance to regulate the temporal affairs of the Episcopal Churches of Ceylon.

6. NEW POSTAL RATES.—The Hon. R. B. Downall gave notice of the following question : —

   To ask what steps Government took previous to the 1st of January to provide against the great inconvenience that occurred to the public consequent on the introduction of the new Postal Rates.

7. LIBELS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked if the Government intended to prosecute the publisher of the *Ceylon News*, or to take any official notice of the gross libels upon the administration of Justice which have been brought to the notice of the Attorney-General ; and moved for any correspondence which may have passed in reference thereto.

   Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

   The Attorney-General replied.

8. THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood moved that the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan be put upon the Sub-Committee on the Prædial Products Bill.

   Seconded by the Hon. R. B. Downall. Motion agreed to.

9. LICENSES UNDER ORDINANCE 6 OF 1872.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, moved for a return showing the number of annual licenses issued under clause 5 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1872, from all Kachchéries, during the past five years.

   Seconded by the Hon. A. L. De Alwis. Motion agreed to.

10. ROAD FROM WILSON'S BUNGALOW TO HAPUTALÉ PASS.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, moved that it was desirable that the road from Wilson's Bungalow to Haputalé be taken over by the Public Works Department.

    Seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.

    The Colonial Secretary having replied, the motion was by leave of Council withdrawn.

11. BILL RELATING TO THE PRESERVATION AND REGISTRATION OF BOOKS PRINTED IN CEYLON.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

12. BILL RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CEYLON.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to enable the Bishop, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of England in Ceylon to provide for the regulation of the affairs of the said Church," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

13. BILL FOR DISESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL CEMETERIES.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to empower the Governor and Executive Council to disestablish General Cemeteries, and to add to, cancel, alter, and amend the limits of any established General Cemetery," was read a first time, and set down for second reading at the next meeting of Council.

14. BREAKWATER LOAN BILL ; COLOMBO WATERWORKS LOAN BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bills intituled respectively "An Ordinance to raise a loan of £60,000 sterling for the completion of the Colombo Harbour Works," and "An Ordinance to raise a loan of £40,000 sterling for the completion of the Colombo Waterworks," were read a first time, and set down for second reading at the next meeting of Council.

15. BILL RELATING TO TRANSIT OF GOODS, &c., FROM ONE PART OF THE ISLAND TO ANOTHER.—On the motion of His Excellency the Governor, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, Rule No. 46 of the Standing Orders of Council having been suspended, the Hon. R. B. Downall, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, moved that the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to ensure the supervision and safe transit of Goods, Produce, and Merchandize from one part of the Island to another," be read a first time. Bill read a first time, and set down for second reading at the next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 21st January, 1885, at 2.30 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 21st January, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers:—

   1. Financial Statements.
   2. Letter from the Bishop of Colombo, dated 17th January, 1885, on the subject of the Draft Ordinance relating to the Church of England in Ceylon.

4. PETITION, MUHAMMADAN BURIAL GROUND.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan presented a petition from certain members of the congregation of the Muhammadan Mosque at Maradána, respecting a burial ground.

5. MUHAMMADAN BURIAL GROUND.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan gave notice of the following motion:—

   To move that the petition to-day presented from certain members of the congregation of the Muhammadan Mosque at Maradána be referred to a Select-Committee of the Council for consideration and report.

6. ORDINANCE No. 12 OF 1846.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, by leave of Council, postponed the question standing in his name till next meeting.

7. POSTAL RATES.—The Hon. R. B. Downall, pursuant to notice, asked what steps Government took previous to the 1st of January to guard against the great inconvenience to the public consequent on the introduction of the new Postal Rates.

   The Colonial Secretary replied.

8. BILL RELATING TO THE PRESERVATION AND REGISTRATION OF BOOKS PRINTED IN CEYLON.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown upon the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, read a third time and passed.

9. BILL RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CEYLON.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

10. BILL FOR DISESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL CEMETERIES.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

11. BREAKWATER LOAN BILL; COLOMBO WATERWORKS BILL.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bills were read a second time, and next meeting of Council appointed for the purpose of going into Committee thereon.

12. BILL TO PROVIDE FOR SAFE TRANSIT OF GOODS, ETC.—On the motion of the Hon. R. B. Downall, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, Rule No. 44 of the Standing Orders having been suspended, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Hon. R. B Downall having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted. The Bill was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Tuesday, the 27th January, at 2.30 o'clock P.M.

Tuesday, 27th January, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. PETITION.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan presented a petition from employés of the General Post Office and moved that it be read. The petition, which had reference to the pay and promotion of the petitioners, having been read, the Colonial Secretary pointed out that for a body of Public Servants to memorialize the Legislative Council constituted a grave breach of discipline.

The Hon P. Rámа-Náthan gave notice that he should at next meeting of Council call attention to the subject of the petition.

4. Repeal of Ordinance No. 12 of 1846.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked if the Government proposed to repeal Ordinance No. 12 of 1846, being an Ordinance to regulate the temporal affairs of the Episcopal Churches of Ceylon.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

5. Petition from the Members of the Muhammadan Mosque at Maradána.—The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, pursuant to notice, moved that the petition presented at last meeting of Council from certain members of the congregation of the Muhammadan Mosque at Maradána be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Treasurer, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, and the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, for consideration and report.

The Hon. A. L. De Alwis seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

6. Bill regulating the Affairs of the Church of England in Ceylon.—The Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, moved that the Bill be re-committed for amendment. Bill re-committed. Consideration of the Bill in Committee adjourned till next meeting of Council.

7. Bill providing for altering the limits of any established General Cemetery.—The Colonial Secretary (in the absence of the Attorney-General), seconded by the Auditor-General, moved that the Bill be read a third time and passed. Bill read a third time and passed.

8. Breakwater Loan Bill.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted. The Standing Orders having, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, been suspended, the report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill was read, and the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, read a third time and passed.

9. Waterworks Loan Bill.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The Standing Orders having, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, been suspended, the report of the Law Officers of the Crown was read, and the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, read a third time and passed.

10. Bill to provide for the safe transit of Goods.—On the motion of the Hon. R. B. Downall, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

11. Bill to provide for the appropriation of Unclaimed Loan Board Balances.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the further appropriation of certain unclaimed balances from the Loan Board," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, the 12th February, 1885, at 2.30 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 12th February, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. Rule relating to Vaccination in the Revised Code for Aided Schools for 1885.—The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan gave notice of the following motions :—

(1) To call attention to the new clause 31 *(f)*: "No scholar shall be eligible for examination unless he shall have been protected from small-pox by having previously had the disease, or by vaccination" (Amended Articles for the Code for Aided Schools for 1885); and to move that it is highly undesirable in the interest of the vernacular education, to further check the operation of the grant-in-aid system by such a rule. Also, to point out that the request of the Director of Public Instruction to certain Managers of schools, to send the unvaccinated children to police stations to be vaccinated there, cannot be enforced without doing violence to the feeling of the pupils and their parents.

(2) To call attention to the memorial of the Clerks of the General Post Office, and to move that in the opinion of the Council the claims of the memorialists to promotion in other branches of the Service deserve the consideration of Government, if increased emoluments or pension cannot be given them by way of compensation.

4. RUWANWELLA AND BULATKOHOPITIYA ROAD.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet gave notice of the following question :—"To ask if the Government propose to continue the construction of the Ruwanwella and Bulatkohopitiya road."

5. INCORPORATION OF CHURCH BODIES.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, pursuant to notice, asked whether any Despatches regarding Incorporation of Church bodies, since that of Lord Kimberley, dated 19th November, 1880 (vide para 8), have been received by the Government from the Secretary of State, and, if so, moved that they be laid on the table.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

6. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinances :—

Ordinance No. 1 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the preservation of copies of Books printed in Ceylon, and for the registration of such Books."

Ordinance No. 2 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to empower the Governor and Executive Council to add to, reduce, or alter the limits of any established General Cemetery."

Ordinance No. 3 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to raise a loan of £60,000 sterling for the completion of the Colombo Harbour Works."

Ordinance No. 4 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to raise a loan of £40,000 sterling for the completion of the Colombo Waterworks."

Ordinance No. 5 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to ensure the supervision and safe transit of Goods, Produce, and Merchandize from one part of this Island to another."

7. BILL TO EXEMPT CERTAIN ARTICLES FROM THE LEVY OF CUSTOMS DUTY.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend in certain respects the levy of Customs Duties under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869, Ordinance No. 14 of 1871, and Ordinance No. 39 of 1884" was read a first time.

The Standing Orders having, on the motion of His Excellency the Governor, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, been suspended, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

8. BILL FOR THE REGULATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CEYLON.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

9. BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF LOAN BOARD BALANCES.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

10. PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.—The Attorney-General brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill. Report read. The Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

11. FOREST BILL.—The Colonial Secretary brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill and moved that it be read. Report read. The further consideration of the Bill in Committee was adjourned till next meeting of Council.

12. REFORMATORIES BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to establish Reformatory Schools" was read a first time and set down for second reading at next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till 2 o'clock on Friday, the 13th instant.

Friday, 13th February, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. RUWANWELLA-BULATKOHOPITIYA ROAD.—The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, pursuant to notice, asked whether the Government proposed to continue the construction of the Ruwanwella-Bulatkohopitiya road.

The Government Agent for the Western Province replied.

4. MEMORIAL BY THE CLERKS OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan called attention to the memorial of the Clerks of the General Post Office, and moved

that in the opinion of this Council the claims of the memorialists to promotion in other Branches of the Clerical Service deserved the consideration of the Government, if increased emoluments or pension cannot be given them by way of compensation.

The Hon. A. L. De Alwis seconded.

The Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Attorney-General, moved an amendment that the discussion of Mr. Rámа-Náthan's motion be adjourned *sine die*.

The Council divided:—For the amendment 6; against the amendment 5; amendment carried.

5. Bill to exempt certain Articles from the levy of Customs Duties.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

6. Loan Board Unclaimed Balances Bill.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

7. Bill for the protection of certain descriptions of Produce.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.

8. Forest Bill.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council. A Select Committee was at the same time appointed, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, and the Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan, for the purpose of framing provisions as to appeals to the Courts from decisions under the Forests Ordinance.

9. Reformatories Bill.—The Council adjourned the further consideration of this Bill.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, the 19th February, at 2.30 P.M.

Thursday, 19th February, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. Assent to Bills.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinances:—

Ordinance No. 7 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the further apppropriation of certain unclaimed Balances from the Loan Board."

Ordinance No. 8 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to exempt certain articles from the levy of Customs Duties."

Ordinance No. 9 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to further provide for the protection of certain kinds of Produce."

4. Supply of Stamps at Out-station Post Offices.—The Colonial Secretary, in connection with the question asked by the Hon. R. B. Downall at the meeting of 21st January, 1885, laid on the table correspondence between the Government and the Postmaster-General in reference to the supply of stamps at out-station Post Offices at the beginning of the year.

5. Petition from Planters and others in Uva.—The Hon. R. A Bosanquet gave notice of intention to ask if the Government have received a petition from certain planters and others in Uva, and if they intend to take any notice of the same.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

6. Damage to Culverts on the North-Central Road near Elephant Pass Causeway.—The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan gave notice of intention to ask why the necessary repairs have not yet been made of damage done in October to culverts on the North-Central road near Elephant Pass Causeway.

7. Rule relating to Vaccination in the Revised Code for 1885.—The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan having by leave of Council amended the terms of the motion standing in his name in the Order of the Day, moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this Council it is highly undesirable in the interest of the vernacular education to further check the operation of the grant-in-aid system by such a rule as No. 31 (*f*) of the amended article for the Code for Aided Schools for 1885—'No scholar shall be eligible for examination unless he shall have been protected from small-pox by having previously had the disease, or by vaccination.'"

Seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Colonial Secretary replied and laid on the table a report from the Director of Public Instruction.

The Hon. P. Ráma-Ráthan having asked leave to withdraw the motion, the Council divided on the question of whether leave should be granted:—Ayes 7; noes 1; majority 6. Leave granted and motion withdrawn.

8. Bill relating to inquiries into Sudden and Unnatural Deaths.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to inquiries into sudden and unnatural Deaths," was read a first time. The Standing Rules having been, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, suspended, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted and the Bill referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

9. Reformatories Bill.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to establish Reformatory Schools" was read a second time.

10. Forest Bill.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province, the Bill was re-committed. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted and the Bill referred to the Law Officers of the Crown and set down for third reading at next meeting of Council.

The Council adjourned till Saturday, the 21st February, at 11 o'clock A.M.

Saturday, 21st February, 1885.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

3. Assent to Bill.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinance:—

> Ordinance No. 6 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to enable the Bishop, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of England in Ceylon to provide for the regulation of the affairs of the said Church."

4. Return of Annual Licenses issued under Ordinance No. 6 of 1872.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the return ordered on the motion of the Hon. R. B. Downall on the 19th February, 1885, viz., a return showing the number of Annual Licenses issued under clause 5 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1872 from all Kachchéries during the past five years.

5. Repairs to Culverts on North-Central Road near Elephant Pass Causeway.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked why the necessary repairs had not been made of damage done in October to culverts on the North-Central road near Elephant Pass Causeway.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

6. Bill relating to inquiries into Sudden and Unnatural Deaths.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to inquiries into sudden and unnatural Deaths," was re-committed. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted. The report of the Law Officers of the Crown on the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.

7. Forest Bill.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown having been read, the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province, moved the third reading of the Bill. Bill read a third time and passed.

8. Assent to Bills.—The Colonial Secretary announced the assent of His Excellency the Governor to the following Ordinances:—

> Ordinance No. 10 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance relating to Forests and Waste Lands and to the felling and transport of Timber."
>
> Ordinance No. 11 of 1885, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to inquiries into sudden and unnatural Deaths."

9. Closing of Session.—His Excellency the Governor closed the Session with the following Address:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

I am now enabled to bring the labours of this long protracted Session to a close.

Of the many Ordinances which have been passed by you, and assented to by me, during its course, some are measures of considerable importance.

The Ordinance authorizing the issue of a Colonial Paper Currency will, I trust, render impossible the recurrence of such disastrous events as marked the past year. The policy of our action in this matter has been sharply assailed, but it is a source of satisfaction to me to know that you are unanimous in your agreement with me as to the necessity for its adoption, and the advantages which are likely to attend its steady prosecution.

The Forest Ordinance, passed by you a few days since, contains provisions of much value. In all probability, however, it will be found that the complicated details of so long a measure will hereafter require some amendment and re-adjustment.

The Thoroughfares Ordinance effects a very considerable change,—and, I believe, a very considerable improvement,—in the Law relating to labour on the Public Roads. It is however right that I should add that I do not anticipate that this useful measure will during the present year effect its full measure of good, and that it is not at all impossible that it may in the first instance actually intensify the evils which it is designed to remedy. I am fully prepared for this contingency, and shall regard it as no proof of the failure of the Act. It is to the second year of its operation that we must look for results.

The Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals will, I trust, increase the efficiency and facilitate the working of those useful institutions.

The Law to afford more effectual protection to certain descriptions of produce will, if it receive, as I hope it may receive, Her Majesty's confirmation, go far to secure the fruits of industrial enterprise from depredation.

Time has not permitted a full consideration of the Bill for the institution of Reformatories, which is accordingly left to be dealt with in our next Session, at which I hope also to be able to bring to your notice several other questions of grave importance.

I thank you for the supplies which you have voted for the Public Service. They will be applied with a careful hand to those purposes for which they are appropriated.

I have specially to acknowledge the unanimity with which the suggestions made to you by my direction for an increase in the Customs Duties, and for an augmentation in the rates of Postage, have been accepted by the Council. Although the new Stamps Ordinance was received with greater hesitation, and some of its provisions were opposed by several Members of the Council, I rejoice to think that the Act, as it finally passed, is the result of a compromise fairly expressing the feelings of this Council.

It has been to me a painful task to propose the imposition of fresh taxation: nor could anything but a conviction of its necessity have induced me to increase in any way burdens which it would give me the highest pleasure to reduce. If, however, the tax-payers of this Island will consider the rates of taxation prevailing elsewhere, I do not think that they can, or will, describe themselves as loaded with an unreasonable weight of taxation.

I congratulate you on your release for a time from your legislative duties. To none will it probably be more welcome than to my honorable friend on my left hand, to whom my special thanks are due for having at my request temporarily taken charge, for the duration of the Session, of the office of the Colonial Secretary, and of the conduct of Government business in this Council. Fully aware that it would be his lot to make unpalatable suggestions to you, he has performed these comparatively distasteful duties with that zealous readiness, and loyal disregard of selfish considerations, which so honourably distinguish him. I congratulate him on his return to more congenial pursuits: but I cannot allow him to resume, as it was arranged that on the termination of the Session he should resume, the duties of his permanent office, without thus publicly expressing my acknowledgments for the assistance he has afforded me during the past four months.

My acknowledgments are also again due this year to the Council at large for the good temper and moderation which have characterized their deliberations. All but one of the European Unofficial Members who sat here last year have been replaced by others; and among the Official Members there are also three new faces. But I see no diminution in the kindly feeling, good sense, and moderate spirit, by which the Council was last year animated, and which will, I trust, long continue to distinguish your deliberations.

It is true that what is called the latent force of Government here resides in the Crown, but you are well aware that the moral and indirect influence you exert is out of all proportion to that which can be measured by the mere voting power of the Members of the Legislature.

It will always be my endeavour so to conduct the business of this Council as to consult the wishes and views of its members. I cannot do so at the expense of what I hold to be my duty to the Sovereign I represent, on the one side, or to the people over whom I rule, on the other. But there is a wide interval within which there is scope for diverse action without any important difference of principle, and within those limits I shall always desire to give effect to the wishes of others, rather than to my own.

I.—1884.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

PROPOSED ROAD FROM RAILWAY TERMINUS AT NANU-OYA TO HAPUTALE GAP.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. XXXV. of 1882.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

PROPOSED ROAD FROM NANU-OYA TO HAPUTALE GAP.

No. 1.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY to the CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER, Nánu-oya Railway.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
No. 1. Colombo, 5th January, 1884.

SIR,—I AM directed to refer to you the enclosed letter from the Director of Public Works for any observations you may have to offer thereon.

I am, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
for Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 1.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 2,248. Colombo, 20th December, 1883.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to forward plans and sections (sixty in all) of the proposed road from the railway terminus at Nánu-oya to the Haputalé Gap.

Descriptions.—The natural features of the country through which the road must pass are so similar to those already described in reports on the surveyed line of railway, that I merely forward a plan to illustrate the relative positions of the two proposals.

In order to make the road of practical use for the construction at some future time of the railway, I have, as you are aware, been restricted, and my trial lines have consequently been narrowed down to an unusually circumscribed limit of deviation. I am not therefore prepared to say that the trace selected is the shortest and most direct between the points of departure and arrival abovenamed, but it may be accepted as the one best adapted for the construction of the railway, and at the same time a well-conceived line of roadway in point of works and gradients. The trace is but a preliminary one, in which all works of a heavy nature have been avoided; consequently, in any future detailed survey improvements may be anticipated. I am, however, of opinion that no extensive deviations from the surveyed line are likely to lead to great results in point of economy in construction, but deviations at various points are practicable, and although heavier works will be encountered, and the distance thereby materially diminished, the total cost will be much the same; at the same time all the purposes of aid and facility in the construction of the railway will be equally well-served.

2. *Direction.*—The surveyed line of roadway leaves the Nánu-oya station, and, after passing through Abbotsford estate, enters the forest until the eighth mile is reached, when the undulating Elk Plains are encountered. Here the intersections of the railway line are numerous, but most of them can be avoided by deviating the road. After leaving the Elk Plains, Ambawela (New Galway) district is served, and running close to the Horton Plains the Ohiya Valley is then traversed—the termination of the road at the Haputalé Gap being accomplished in a distance of thirty miles and three furlongs. A detailed survey adopting certain deviations from the preliminary one will, I am of opinion, reduce the above distance by three miles, making the length of roadway between the two places 27½ miles. The length of the line of railway is 25 miles. Although but a preliminary survey, the line has been carefully chosen, especially with a view to economy in construction, and the fieldwork done with sufficient accuracy to form the basis of the detailed estimate which accompanies this report.

3. *Gradients.*—The gradients are, generally speaking, easy for a hill-country road, and they compare most favourably with others where the distance and difference of altitude present difficulties which require skilful fieldwork and much consideration to overcome. For instance, there are but 3½ miles of 1 in 20, and this length, I am of opinion, will work on to a flatter grade. In practice, the steepest gradient that should be allowed upon a macadamized road—in the good condition in which Ceylon roads are usually maintained—is about 1 in 20, it having been determined by experience that an animal can draw up this slope—unless it be a very long one—the ordinary load for a level road without the help of a second animal. On the other hand, there are many miles of gradients from 1 in 30 to 1 in 60. I append a tracing drawn to a small scale showing all the gradients.

4. *Cross Sections.*—The cross section of the proposed finished roadway in embankments and double cuttings it is intended to construct to a width of 18 feet, inclusive of the side drainage in the latter, and, in sidelong ground, 16 inches. The square culverts are designed to be 18 feet

long inclusive of parapets, and the arched culverts 16 feet 10 inches, while the buckled-plate bridges would have a clear 12 feet roadway. The foundation and metalled surface measured transversely have been fixed at 12 feet.

5. *Metalling.*—I propose to lay down a very substantial and carefully constructed road foundation, and reduce the quantity of metal usually applied to roads, where heavy traffic may be anticipated, from seven to five cubes per line. This, I am of opinion, is the maximum that should in future be laid down in the first instance, as its consolidation is more rapid, and, as a consequence, the traffic works easier. The first year's maintenance should provide a certain extra supply of macadam, which would probably be an increase above future years of 25 per cent.

6. *Estimate.*—I beg to append to this report a detailed estimate of the cost of the whole road, and, for easy reference, to summarize it in the following manner:—

Description of Work.	Quantity.	No.	Rate.	Value.
			Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Cutting and filling in earth and clay cubes ...	133,364	—	1 to 1·50	173,737 25
Cutting in earth and boulders ... „ ...	55,965	—	1 50	83,947 50
Cutting in boulders ... „ ...	5,267	—	2 0	10,474 0
Cutting in rock ... ... „ ...	2,086	—	3 0	6,258 0
Buckled-plate bridge, 10 feet span and over ...	—	6	—	11,900 0
Arched culverts	—	28	—	20,512 0
Square culverts	—	191	—	39,700 0
Road foundation ... ... lines ...	1,603·80	—	12 0	19,245 60
Road metalling ... ... „ ...	1,603·80	—	60 0	96,228 0
Cutting side-drains ... ... cubes ...	6,3(0·00	—	1 50	9,540 0
Cross-drains	—	200 @ 10 @	150 0 200 0	32,000 0
Compensation	—	—	—	11,900 0
Lines and Bungalows	—	—	—	15,000 0
Clearing and rooting jungle	—	—	—	9,550 0
Contingencies	—	—	—	54,071 20
Miscellaneous	--	—	—	10,220 0
			Total ...	604,283 55

NOTE.—A cube is equal to 3 7 cubic yards.

The estimated cost, inclusive of contingent charges, is Rs. 19,894 per mile—a rate which would be increased by the shortening of the road, but would not in proportion affect the total.

7. *Construction.*—Whether the construction is to be entrusted to a contractor or placed in the hands of the Public Works Department, is a matter requiring consideration. There is no objection to the former mode of executing the work, provided a contractor of experience and capital can be secured, but I unhesitatingly deprecate the acceptance of the lowest tender in the event of competition being invited, unless all the circumstances justify it. The contract system is as yet so undeveloped that the greatest precaution should be exercised in selection, and unless the Government is in a position to feel assured of the competency financially and from past experience of the party who submits a temptingly low tender, it would be unwise to enter into any binding contract.

In construction, the Department has already proved its superiority both in point of execution and economy of cost, so that the Government need not hesitate to place this particular work in its hands. Personally, I am in favour of the contract system, but I am strongly opposed to the hard-and-fast rule of accepting the lowest tender irrespective of every consideration save that of the required security.

8. *Maintenance.*—The maintenance of this road will not be costly: the climate is mild, and, on the whole, the gradients are good. I estimate it at Rs. 1,000 per mile per annum in the event of the whole of the traffic of Uva not taking advantage of it, but at Rs. 1,200 per mile should my expectations of its utility be realized. When it is opened—which it might be if undertaken at an early date, simultaneously with the railway to Nánu-oya—the costly maintenance of the road from Colombo to the Haputalé Gap, a distance of 112 miles, may be materially reduced. Between Colombo and Ratnapura a saving of Rs. 400 per mile, or a total of Rs. 22,400 per annum may be safely assumed. Between Ratnapura and Haputalé the estimate may be reduced from the present rate of Rs. 1,778 per mile per annum to Rs. 1,000 until the new route is established, and afterwards to Rs. 700 per mile—a saving respectively of Rs. 778 and Rs. 1,078 per mile, or a total eventually of Rs. 60,368 per annum.

9. *Road as a relief for traffic.*—Whatever conflicting opinions there may be as to the utility of this road, it must be admitted that it meets the difficulty of an early relief in the matter of transport for the districts of Badulla and Haputalé, and alone as such commends itself to your consideration.

10. *Cost of survey.*—I append a memorandum of the cost of the preliminary survey.

I am, &c.,
ROBERT MACBRIDE,
Acting Director of Public Works.

Memorandum on the cost of the Preliminary Survey of the proposed road from Nánu-oya to the Haputalé Gap.

The survey was commenced by Mr. G. Fernando at the Haputalé end on the 30th April, 1883, and by Mr. Hayes (Superintending Officer) from the Nánu-oya end on the 1st May, 1883.

Mr. Hayes surveyed 7 miles in 106 working days, at an expenditure of Rs. 92·41 per mile, exclusive of his own salary and allowance, or, inclusive of them, at Rs. 325·07 per mile.

Mr. Fernando surveyed 23·38 miles in 142 working days, at an expenditure of Rs. 46·51 per mile, exclusive of his salary and allowance, or, inclusive of them, at Rs. 109·80 per mile. Mr. Fernando's salary and allowance bear a proportion to that drawn by Mr. Hayes as 9 is to 10.

The total cost of the survey has been, inclusive of wages, salaries, allowances, and contingent expenditure, Rs. 4,842·91, or Rs. 159 per mile.

Mr. Fernando has discharged this duty efficiently, and I commend him to your approbation.

If the road is to be carried out I most strongly recommend that the surveyed line should at once be marked by a cutting commonly called a "lock-spit," but, in this case, of greater dimensions. The cost I estimate at Rs. 25 per mile. The saving that will be effected by it is out of all proportion to the expenditure named, for it will materially facilitate the improvement of the trace, and make prospecting, which is now attended with much difficulty owing to the precipitous nature of the ground, comparatively easy.

ROBERT MACBRIDE,
Acting Director of Public Works.

EXPENDITURE on the Nánu-oya-Haputalé Road Trace.

No. of Estimate.	Date of Sanction.	Service.	Amount of Estimate.	Expenditure by		Total.
				Mr. Fernando.	Mr. Hayes.	
	1883.		Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
555	April 27	For tracing the Uva portion of the road ...	500 0	500 0	—	500 0
632	July 13	For tracing the road between Nánu-oya and Haputalé	1,030 0	383 10	646 90	1,030 0
		Supplementary Estimate for do. do. ..	—	204 39	—	204 39
			—	1,087 49	646 90	1,734 39

(Mr. Hayes, 7 miles.)

		Rs. cts.	
Pay	...	1,205 44	
Allowance	...	423 18	
Survey	...	646 90	
		Rs. 2,275·52	= Rs. 325·07 per mile, including pay and allowance; Rs. 92·41 excluding pay and allowance.

(Mr. Fernando, 23·38 miles.)

		Rs. cts.	
Pay	...	1,149 41	
Allowance	...	330 49	
Survey	...	1,087 49	
		Rs. 2,567·39	= Rs 109·80 per mile, including pay and allowance; Rs. 46·51 excluding pay and allowance.

Total cost of survey ... Rs. 4,842·91 = Rs. 159 per mile.

ROBERT MACBRIDE,
Acting Director of Public Works.

No. 2.

The CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER, Nánu-oya Railway, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 24. Dimbula, 1st February, 1884.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to return the report and estimate framed by the Director of Public Works upon the proposed road between Nánu-oya and Haputalé, which accompanied your communication No. 1 of the 5th ultimo, and to submit for the consideration of His Excellency the following remarks thereon.

2. I may here perhaps be permitted to invite attention to the seventh paragraph of the Consulting Engineer's letter to the Crown Agents of the 6th September, 1882,* and to point out that a first-class road estimated to cost Rs. 19,894 per mile, such as that now proposed, is widely different from the bridle-path, the construction of which is therein recommended, and that the

* See Sessional Paper XXXV. of 1882, page 3.

economy to be hereafter effected in the execution of the railway works would not, in my opinion, be at all commensurate with the additional cost to the Colony involved by the construction of a road of this expensive character.

3. With reference to that part of the road trace extending from Nánu-oya to stake No. 380 (= in length 38,000 feet, or a little more than 7 miles) which was, I understand, selected by Mr. Hayes, to whom I had an opportunity of personally explaining my views as to the principles which should guide him in choosing the site for the road, I am happy to say that, as far as I am able to judge without visiting the ground, from the position of the few railway stakes marked on the plans, the trace of the road appears to be well and carefully chosen; for, while it does not appear at any points to interfere with or to be in dangerous proximity to the proposed railway, except at a few places when starting from Nánu-oya, which was perhaps unavoidable, yet it lies always within a reasonable distance generally, not apparently exceeding 500 or 600 feet therefrom.

4. As regards the rest of the road trace, I regret that, as far as an examination of the plans allows me to form an opinion, I am not able to speak so favourably.

5. Between the following points upon the road trace sufficient data have been given upon the plans to enable me to lay down the relative position of the railway thereon:—

(*a*) From stake 416 (distant 41,600 feet from Nánu-oya) to stake 739 (distant 73,900 feet from that place), a length of 32,300 feet, equal to more than 6 miles of road; the corresponding points on the railway trace being between 6 miles 46 chains and 11 miles 52 chains from Nánu-oya.

(*b*) From stake 327 (distant 32,700 feet from Haputalé) to stake No. 264 (distant 26,400 feet from that place), a length of 6,300 feet, or nearly 1¼ mile; the corresponding points on the railway being from 20 miles 19 chains to 21 miles 31·50 chains from Nánu-oya.

(*c*) From stake 89 (distant 8,900 feet from Haputalé) to the termination of the road at Haputalé Pass, a length of 8,900 feet, or nearly 1¾ mile; the corresponding points on the railway being between 23 miles 77 chains and 25 miles 31·78 chains from Nánu-oya.

6. These portions of the road and railway trace are shown upon the enclosed tracings marked respectively Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Upon these tracings the course of the road is shown by a *black* line, the centre line of the railway being shown by a *red* line; the amount of land required for the construction of the cuttings and embankments, but excluding any required for stations, side cutting, spoil banks, inlets and outlets, being shown in *red* and *green colour* respectively.

It will thus be understood that the land shown as required for the railway cannot anywhere be *less*, but at many points may be *more* than that shown, and also that the trace of the road being shown by a line merely, having no sensible breadth, any interference between the traces must necessarily be *greater* than that which a cursory glance at the tracings herewith forwarded shows.

I have also shown by dotted red lines a distance of 264 feet equal to four chains on each side of the railway within which, as stated in paragraph 3 of my letter No. 48 of 7th March last, and more forcibly in paragraph 1 of my letter No. 143 of 2nd July last, I consider that the road and railway should not approach each other.

7. Upon examination of tracing No. 1, comprising a length of road of 32,300 feet, it will be seen that for the whole of this distance, except about 5,500 feet, the road lies within a distance of 264 feet of the centre line of railway; that it crosses the centre line of railway no less than 32 times irrespective of the places where it actually runs along it; and, finally, for a distance of 8,100 feet, the centre line of road lies within the limits of the land actually required for the construction of the cuttings and embankments of the railway.

8. Upon this portion of the road trace there are a few possible deviations marked upon the plans, but their adoption would, I think, in all cases be much more expensive than the trace shown, especially that between stakes 465 and 477, which, without taking into account any fall in the stream, would involve the construction of a bridge of 18 feet span under an embankment 46 feet in height—a work the cost of which for a common road would, I think, be deemed excessive if not prohibitory.

9. With reference to tracing No. 2, comprising a length of road of 6,300 feet, it will be observed that the road for the whole of this length lies within a distance of 264 feet of the centre line of railway; that it crosses the centre line of railway twice; and, finally, that for 2,120 feet the centre line of road lies within the limits of the land actually required for the cuttings and embankments of the railway.

10. As regards tracing No. 3, comprising a length of road of 8,900 feet, it will be observed that it crosses the railway once (the point of crossing being in the centre of Haputalé station, and therefore impracticable); that for a distance of 6,700 feet it lies within a distance of 264 feet of the centre line of railway; and, finally, that for a distance of 670 feet the road lies within the limits of the land required for the cuttings and embankments of the railway.

11. It would be tedious, and, I think, would unnecessarily prolong this report, were I to examine into the works required at each of these numerous interferences of the traces, and to do so to any good purpose would entail detailed surveys, levels, and careful examination on the ground. It is therefore, I think, sufficient to state that at every point where the road crosses the railway, except where it does so at the junction of the red and green colours on the tracings, the construction of a bridge either over or under the railway, or an alteration of the levels of the road, which might in some cases be impracticable without an extensive deviation of it, would be necessary.

12. I may here remark that the tracing drawn to a small scale, referred to in paragraph 3 of the report of the Director of Public Works, and purporting to show all the gradients, does not do so, but merely the average gradients. On examination of the sections of the proposed road it appears that the gradient of 1 in 20 exists for 34,675 feet = upwards of 6½ miles, and not for 3½ miles as stated in the parapraph in question.

13. The experience gained in respect of the slip at Carolina station on this railway, where the road and railway are 276 feet apart, to which reference was made in paragraph 5 of my half-yearly report for the half-year ending 30th June, 1883,* and which you visited on the 14th September last, has shown the danger of the occurrence of casualties of this nature when two lines of communication approach each other, owing to the alteration of the physical features of the country caused by the excavation necessary for their construction, and also the cost entailed by their removal and the remedial measures required; and this danger will be much increased by the generally excessively steep nature of the ground which is at many points traversed by the road now under consideration, and it is for this reason I think much to be regretted that, apparently for the sake of expediting the survey, those portions of the road shown on the enclosed tracings appear to have been laid out from the railway trace as a base line and guide instead of a new trace for the road, running somewhat near but not interfering with the railway, having been sought.

14. I do not, therefore, hesitate to say, as regards those portions of the proposed road now under consideration, and presumably also as regards the remainder, which, on account of the insufficient data given, I have not been able thus to examine, that if constructed upon the present trace or upon a trace approximating thereto, it will not only be of no practical use for the construction at some future time of the railway, but that in the event of the railway being hereafter sanctioned, it would be the first duty of the Railway Engineer to seek for and to reconstruct the road upon some other trace which would avoid the enormous expense of the numerous crossings and heavy slips which would inevitably occur, and which would otherwise, I venture to say, render the construction of the railway impracticable on account of the cost thus involved.

15. The Director of Public Works, in the memorandum attached to his report, recommends strongly that the trace of the road be indicated by cutting a trench, called a "lock-spit." This I consider to be very undesirable, as I fear many of the railway stakes would be thus removed, and to properly replace them would involve much trouble and delay. I would, on the contrary, recommend that when an officer be available from this staff, I might be permitted to detach him to examine the railway route and to replace any of the stakes which might be found missing.

16. Even if there be no immediate intention of constructing the railway, it would be, I consider, an action greatly to be deplored were the road to be constructed upon a trace which so much interferes with the only available route for a railway subject to the same conditions as regards curves and gradients as that at present staked out, and I trust that I may be permitted here to suggest that if the primary object of the road be to facilitate the construction of a railway hereafter, the selection of its course might be with propriety entrusted to an officer of this Department, who would thoroughly understand by past experience not only the points where it should approach the railway trace, but also those where it should diverge therefrom.

17. The subject being an important one, and involving such serious results, I hope that I may be pardoned in suggesting, should the Government not be prepared to adopt my views without further advice, that the question may be submitted for the opinion of the Consulting Engineer thereon before any action in respect of the construction of the road be undertaken.

18. I trust I may not be considered as travelling beyond my province in submitting that, if the primary object of the road be to draw the Haputalé and Uva traffic to Nánu-oya stations, that of facilitating the construction of a railway hereafter being only a secondary one, it appears to me that this result might be attained at less cost to the Colony than by the construction of the proposed road, which, on account of the great altitude above the sea, of the country passed through, and also on account of the absence of population along the whole route, would be, I anticipate, unpopular with cartmen who, I think, if compelled to use it, would for these reasons charge increased rates.

19. I refer to the alternative plan of the construction of a road from Haputale Pass to Pálugama, about one mile below Wilson's Bungalow on the road to Badulla. The elevation of these points above the sea are respectively 4,585 feet and about 3,900 feet; the distance between them by the present minor road is 16 miles;† the intervening country is undulating and to a considerable extent under cultivation; there are several small villages along this road, which does not, as far as I am aware, cross any range of hills or streams demanding very large bridges.

20. I am therefore of opinion that if the road proposed between Nánu-oya and Haputalé be estimated to cost Rs. 19,894 per mile, it is not unreasonable to suppose that a similar road from Haputalé to Pálugama could be made for about Rs. 15,000 per mile, and that its length need not exceed 16 miles, being the length of the minor road connecting these points. If these assumptions are correct, the cost of the road in question would thus be Rs. 240,000. A further sum of (say) Rs. 110,000 might, I think, be advantageously spent in improving the road between Baker's Farm and Wilson's Bungalow, the gradients of which are in places excessively steep: this, the comparatively level portions of the road near Sítá Eliya, 2·40 miles below Baker's Farm, and at other points, would, I think, render not difficult.

21. The cost of the works‡ thus involved would be Rs. 350,000, as against the sum of Rs. 604,283 (the estimated cost of the road from Nánu-oya to Haputalé), thus effecting a saving of Rs. 254,283, while the whole of the saving on the upkeep on the road from Colombo to Haputalé, estimated by the Director of Public Works in paragraph 8 of his report to be Rs. 80,000 per annum, would still be effected.

22. From information given by several planters in the neighbourhood, it appears that the average cost of conveyance of coffee down from Dimbula to Náwalapitiya by cart is about 38 cents

* No. 163 of 24th July, 1883 (not printed). † See Fyers' Itinerary of Minor Roads, page 54
‡ See Director of Public Works to Colonial Secretary, No. 2,248 of 20th December, 1883, paragraph 6

per ton per mile. The rate for coffee per ton on the open line between Gampola and Náwalapiṭiya would appear to be Rs. 1·25, and the maximum rate by Ordinance 10 of 1878 to be charged upon coffee to be carried by this railway when opened is 26 cents per ton per mile.*

23. From these figures the cost of conveyance of one ton of coffee from Haputalé to Gampola by the following routes is arrived at:—

A.—*From Haputalé to Gampola by road the whole way.* (Total distance, 63½ miles by cart.)

	Rs.	cts.
From Haputalé to Pálugama by proposed new road, 16 miles, @ 38 cents ...	6	8
From Pálugama *viâ* Nuwara Eliya and Ramboḍa to Gampola by road, @ 38 cents ...	18	5
Rs.	24	13

B.—*From Haputalé to Gampola viâ proposed new road to Pálugama, thence to Nanu-oya Station and by rail from the latter point.* (Total distance, 82¼ miles—by cart, 32 miles; by rail, 50¼.)

	Rs.	cts.
From Haputalé to Pálugama as above	6	8
Pálugama to Nánu-oya Station, 16 miles, @ 38 cents	6	8
Nánu-oya to Náwalapiṭiya, 41 miles, @ 26 cents	10	66
Náwalapiṭiya to Gampola by rail, @ Rs. 1·25	1	25
Rs.	24	7

C.—*From Haputalé to Nánu-oya Station by proposed new Haputalé to Nánu-oya road, and thence by rail to Gampola.* (Total distance, 80⅝ miles—by cart, 30⅜ miles; by rail, 50¼.)

	Rs.	cts.
30⅜ miles—taking the rate for the reasons mentioned in paragraph 18 of this report @ 40 cents per ton per mile	12	15
From Nánu-oya to Náwalapiṭiya by rail, 41 miles, @ 26 cents ...	10	56
From Náwalapiṭiya to Gampola by rail	1	25
Rs	24	6

N. B.—The cost of carriage by rail between Gampola and Colombo is not taken into consideration, as it is common to each of the three routes.

24. It would thus appear that the cost by all three routes is practically equal, and that therefore the route viâ Ramboḍa, leaving the question of saving of time out of consideration, might compete with the one that I have suggested; but I am of opinion that it could not do so successfully were the recommendation of the Select Committee on Retrenchment, which has, I understand, received the concurrence of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State, and which is to the effect "that there is no occasion to maintain public roads which compete with the lines of railway upon a scale involving any large expense to the public,"† put in force as regards the upper portion of the Ramboḍa Pass road, which has, I believe, never been a popular one with cartmen.

25. Holding the opinions respecting the trace of the proposed Nánu-oya to Haputalé road expressed in this report, it appears to me unnecessary to examine it upon the ground; I have, however, pending the receipt of instructions from Government upon this point, retained in this office for the present the plans and sections accompanying the report of the Director of Public Works.

I have, &c.,

F. J. WARING,
Chief Resident Engineer.

* See General Regulations, Ceylon Government Railway, April, 1882, page 4.
† See Sessional Paper XXXVIII. of 1883, page 7.

II.—1884.

COLOMBO HARBOUR WORKS.

REPORT

ON

THE PROPOSED GRAVING DOCK AT COLOMBO:

BY SIR JOHN COODE.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. XI. of 1882.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

COLOMBO GRAVING DOCK.

THE COLONIAL OFFICE to Governor the Hon. A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G.

No. 6.— *Ceylon.* Downing-street, 4th January, 1884.

SIR,—I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for your information, with reference to his despatch No. 265 of the 11th of August last, the documents specified in the annexed schedule.

I have, &c.,
ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Date.	Description of Document.
1st Jan., 1884 ...	Copy of letter from the Crown Agents, forwarding a report from Sir J. Coode as to the cost of a graving dock at Colombo. (Plan sent separately through the Crown Agents).

From the CROWN AGENTS to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

Ceylon.

Downing-street,
London, 1st January, 1884.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letters of the 15th of April and 1st of August, 1882, relative to the proposed graving dock at Colombo, I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of Sir John Coode's report upon the subject, together with a drawing showing the character and extent of the works to which that report refers.

I have, &c.,
M. F. OMMANNEY.

From Sir JOHN COODE to the CROWN AGENTS.

5, Westminster Chambers,
London, S.W., 22nd December, 1883.

Colombo Harbour.

GENTLEMEN,—WITH reference to your letter of 17th April, last year, forwarding a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Ceylon, together with a resolution of the Legislative Council, I am now enabled to lay before you a report on the questions upon which my opinion was desired, viz., as to "what the cost would be of providing Colombo with a suitable graving dock at the lotus pond, or at some equally convenient site, also what would be the cost of a patent slip, to accommodate vessels up to 1,500 tons register, and further what a hydraulic floating dock would cost to lift ships of the same tonnage."

I should here remark that, after the receipt of your letter, I found it necessary to communicate on different occasions with Mr. Kyle, the Resident Engineer of the Harbour Works, with reference to local information and data bearing on the questions remitted as above. It was necessary, amongst other particulars, to obtain accurate borings and sections over the bed of the lotus pond and in its vicinity on the harbour side; thus, although a considerable period has elapsed since your instructions were received, the matter has progressed in the interval, and I am now enabled to put forward this report with confidence, based, as it is, upon the complete data with which I have now been furnished.

Although I have only been asked to state the cost respectively of a graving dock, a patent slip, and a floating dock, I assume it to be desired that my views should also be given on the general engineering features of each system, with a statement as to which of the three will be the most suitable for Colombo.

Size of vessel proposed to be accommodated.—The size of vessel mentioned in the resolution of the Legislative Council, viz, 1,500 tons register, would represent a screw steamer of about 260 feet in length, the dead weight of ship and engines being about 1,200 tons. It will be at once evident that this size falls far short of that of the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental, British India, Ducal, and many other lines frequenting Colombo, the present average of which may be taken as from 3,000 to 5,000 tons register.

General remarks on the relative advantages of graving dock and patent slip.—As bearing upon this branch of the subject, it may be stated generally that whilst a graving dock can be adapted for the accommodation of ships of any size, a patent slip is only suited for the reception

of vessels up to, say, 2,000 tons register as a maximum, corresponding with steamers of about 300 feet in length. A patent slip is not adapted for such long and heavy ships as those of the P. & O. Company, nor for many other steamers of the largest class calling at Colombo. Long vessels if placed on a slip would suffer strain from their sterns being afloat, whilst their bows are being drawn out of the water on the cradle, therefore it may be taken for granted that P. & O. and similar high class steamers would not use a slip if one were available of sufficient power.

The latter remarks may appear, at first sight, to have no special bearing on this particular question, seeing that it is contemplated in the resolution of the Legislative Council to make provision for vessels up to 1,500 tons register only, for which size a slip would be quite suitable. In making a comparison, however, between a slip and a graving dock, it should be borne in mind that the latter would be available for vessels of *all* sizes, inasmuch as were a work of this class to be sanctioned, it should be made of such capacity as would admit the largest class of steamers, allowing for reasonable growth hereafter. Nor should it be overlooked that if a slip were provided, most of the steamers requiring urgent repairs or overhauling would, in consequence of their size, still have to proceed to Bombay or elsewhere to be docked; moreover, experience in similar cases shows that a graving dock will follow hereafter if a slip be constructed in the first instance, the accommodation of a first-class harbour not being complete or satisfactory in its absence.

The question therefore arises whether, notwithstanding the difference in cost, it is not advisable to adopt a graving dock in preference to a slip. If this question is to be determined on grounds of general utility and the wants of the port, then the execution of a graving dock should, beyond doubt, be approved. It may, however, appear desirable, for financial considerations, to construct a slip, leaving the dock to follow hereafter, seeing that it is not improbable a sufficient number of vessels may use a slip to justify the outlay in its construction.

Graving Dock.—The suggested site for a graving dock referred to in the resolution of the Legislative Council, viz., the lotus pond, is the most suitable which could have been selected for the purpose. The bed of the pond consists of sand and mud overlying cabook, clay, and rock. In the calculations for the estimate to be presently given, provision has been made for founding the work on the rock bottom, which occurs at a convenient level for that purpose.

Although the site possesses the structural advantages to which allusion has just been made, it, in common with any other site in the harbour of Colombo, will necessitate the formation of an approach channel to connect the entrance to the dock with the deep-water area now being dredged, a comparatively shoal belt intervening between the deepened area and the shore.

The accompanying plan shows, by red colour and lines, the extent and general character of the works which will be required if a graving dock is sanctioned. The principal dimensions of the dock would be:—

	Feet.
Length on floor, *i.e.*, from inside of entrance to upper end ...	500
Width between copings	96
Mean width across floor	45
Width of entrance	68
Depth over cill at high water	26
Depth over cill at low water	24

These dimensions are very similar to those of a dock which I have recently completed for the Table Bay Harbour Commissioners, for the accommodation of large vessels of a somewhat similar class to those which frequent Colombo. These proportions have proved quite satisfactory, and will be in every respect suitable for Colombo.

The work would mainly consist of Portland cement concrete, with masses of rubble stone incorporated therein, the copings at the road surface, the steps, timber-slides, and parts subject to much wear, as also the masonry of the entrance, being of Mahara gneiss, suitably dressed by local labour.

The entrance would be placed on the line of the existing road between the Wharf and the Pettah. It would be closed by a ship-shaped caisson, having a deck so arranged as to form a roadway across the opening, of 17 feet in width, when the caisson is in position, thus avoiding the necessity for a swing bridge. For the purpose of conveniently manipulating the caisson when ships have to be "docked" or "undocked," it is proposed to construct a small berth for its accommodation immediately outside and adjoining the east wing of the entrance.

The material from the excavations would be utilized for filling the lotus pond to the level of the dock coping, thereby forming a convenient workyard. Connecting roads would be constructed on the east and west sides of this yard respectively, as shown on the drawing. The gradients of the Pettah road would also be modified on either side of the entrance in order to afford easy access to the caisson deck.

The approach channel to the dock, to which reference has been made, is indicated on the plan by crossed red lines. It extends from the entrance at the Pettah road, through the reclaimed land, to the southern limit of the area now being dredged to a depth of 26 feet at low water. The length of this channel is thus nearly 1,000 feet, and it is proposed that its bottom width should be 200 feet, and its depth about the same as that over the dredged area in the harbour. The channel would be formed mainly by dredging, but blasting with dynamite would be resorted to along the shoreward section where cabook exists. The sides of the channel where passing through the reclamation would be lined with rubble stone procured mainly from that portion of the embankment which would be removed in the execution of the works.

Provision would be made by means of suitable centrifugal pumps, engines, culverts, &c., to remove the water from the dock in about four hours, which will be sufficiently expeditious, having regard to the time required for shoring the ship. The dock would be filled through culverts

formed in the masonry of the entrance. It would be furnished with capstans, fairleads, cast iron keel blocks, and all appliances for its proper utilization, all of the most modern character.

The closing of the spill-water which now leads into the lotus pond will necessitate the formation of a new waterway on the Galle Face, adjacent to the present overflow sluices, having a clear width of not less than 50 feet and a breadth equal to that of the existing cart road and walk. Mr. Kyle suggests that a new waterway should also be constructed at the road and rail bridge, as the present openings are not sufficient to discharge all the overflow water of the lake, nor are they capable of being widened.

I estimate the cost of the foregoing works as follows :—

	£
Graving dock complete with wing walls, caisson and berth for same, including filling lotus pond, alterations to Pettah road, forming new connecting roads, &c.	91,100
Pumps, engines, boilers, engine house, pump well, culverts, &c. ...	11,870
Forming entrance channel, including cutting through existing reclamation and embankment, with such blasting of the cabook as may be necessary ...	26,360
Cost of dock with entrance channel complete	129,330
Forming new spill-water and flood openings on Galle Face, as estimated by Mr. Kyle	6,000
Total cost of works ...	£135,330

The foregoing estimate includes supervision and local establishment charges, also upkeep and maintenance of all plant, but is based on the assumption that such plant as may be necessary from the Harbour Works, including the dredger and hopper barges, will be available for use in the construction of the dock and channel free of primary cost after the operations now in hand have been completed.

It has been suggested that the lake might be connected with the head of the graving dock by means of a channel 14 feet in width, with locks for the use of coffee boats plying between the mills and ships lying in the harbour. I regret that I have not been able to see my way to adopt this suggestion, as it would add considerably to the cost of works, already, from the circumstances of the case, necessitating a heavy expenditure; moreover, when a ship is in the dock the canal could not be used, and again, the caisson could not be in position in the entrance when the canal is in operation, thereby inconveniently affecting the traffic on the Pettah road.

It will be observed on the plan that a small basin is contemplated in front of the graving dock entrance, where the channel passes through the reclaimed land. It is probable that sufficient shelter would be afforded thereby to enable vessels to enter the dock on all, or nearly all, occasions during the north-east monsoon in the absence of the additional shelter which would be afforded to the harbour by the north arm of design B., proposed by me in March, 1881. Should experience show that more perfect quiescence is required, which however is not probable, the two short jetties indicated by dotted lines could be constructed at no great additional outlay, their outer terminations corresponding with the sides of the channel respectively, and thus being 200 feet apart.

Patent Slip.—Although, as named in the last paragraph, the graving dock could be approached under practically all circumstances, this will scarcely apply to a patent slip. The best position for such a slip is shown by brown lines on the drawing, viz., to the eastward of the site of the proposed graving dock, and at a sufficient distance therefrom to admit of the convenient construction of the latter work hereafter, should it be decided to proceed with the slip in the first instance.

It will be seen that the foot of the slip would project a considerable distance into the harbour, which is unavoidable from the character of the work, and there would thus be many occasions during the north-east monsoon when, *in the absence of the north-arm*, it would not be safe, in consequence of undulation in the harbour, to place a vessel on the slip.

This difficulty might of course be overcome by the construction of sheltering works, but their cost would not be justified by the additional advantages derived therefrom; thus, if a slip is to be provided, it should be considered that occasionally, during north-east monsoons, it will not be practicable to use it.

The inclination of the slip would be one in twenty-two. Its foundations would consist of a strong cradling of teak logs, sunk on to a prepared bed of rubble, the latter being temporarily weighted in lengths to ensure consolidation. It would be provided with hydraulic purchase hauling gear, the time occupied in "slipping" a vessel being about one and a-half hour. An approach channel, of 150 feet bottom width, would be dredged from the deepened area in the harbour to the foot of the incline. A guide and warping jetty, 300 feet in length, would also be necessary on the east of the slip in the position shown. The cost of a slip adapted for vessels of 1,500 tons register, with machinery, foundations, approach channel and warping jetty complete, would be about £48,000, and the cost for vessels of 2,000 tons register £56,000.

Hydraulic Floating Dock.—Docks on this system are constructed under the patents of Messrs. Clark and Standfield. I have recently examined one at Barrow, and have arrived at the conclusion that, although it possesses undoubted advantages in certain positions, such an arrangement would be quite unsuited to Colombo. It would not be possible to use it except in absolutely quiet water, and it would necessitate the dredging of a berth having a depth of about 40 feet for the reception of the pontoons which carry the keel blocks, and over which the vessel would float previous to being lifted. Again, these docks necessitate the employment of a very large surface of iron in the pontoons and floats, which are exposed to the corroding influence of sea-water, an action which experience at Colombo on the floating craft employed in the Harbour Works has shown to be unusually active. The cost of the dock at Barrow, 240 feet in length, was, I under-

stand, £45,000. At Colombo a similar dock, allowing for delivery, erection, dredging berth, forming gridiron, &c., would be from £80,000 to £90,000. The system is, in my view, wholly unsuited to this port.

Summary.—The foregoing recommendations may be briefly summarized as follows :—

1st—That the means of repairing and overhauling ships of *all* classes can only be provided by a graving dock.

2nd—That patent slips are not adapted for vessels of over 2,000 tons register.

3rd—That if, for financial considerations, it may be considered desirable to provide a slip in the first instance, a graving dock will undoubtedly follow hereafter, no port frequented by *large* steamers being complete without such a work.

4th—That a hydraulic floating dock is not suited to Colombo.

I have, &c.,

JNO. COODE.

III.—1884.

THEFTS OF ESTATE PRODUCE.

RETURN to an Order of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, dated 11th February, 1884:

"That a Return be furnished showing the Number of Complaints of Theft of Estate Produce in the Central Province during the year 1883, and the result of such Complaints."

(Hon. F. M. Mackwood.)

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

THEFTS OF ESTATE PRODUCE.

RETURN showing the Number of Complaints of Theft of Estate Produce in the Central Province, instituted before the Justices of the Peace and Police Magistrates, during the year 1883, and the Result of such Complaints.

Officer before whom Affidavit made.	No. of Complaints in 1883.	Dismissed for want of prosecution.	Dismissed for insufficiency of evidence.	Committed for trial.		Acquitted.	Convicted.	Referred to Civil Action.	Withdrawn.	Remaining undecided on the (date of return.)
				Before Supreme Court.	Before District Court.					
Kandy.										
Justice of the Peace ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	50	14	—	—	—	7	29	—	—	—
Mátalé.										
Justice of the Peace ...	5	—	—	1	4	2	3	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	17	4	—	—	—	2	11	—	—	—
Badulla.										
Justice of the Peace ...	16	4	1	1	10	2	7	—	—	2
Police Magistrate ...	13	5	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya.										
Justice of the Peace ...	2	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	9	1	—	—	—	1	7	—	—	—
Galagedara.										
Justice of the Peace ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Panwila.										
Justice of the Peace ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	37	22	—	—	—	1	11	2	1	—
Urugala.										
Justice of the Peace ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	30	16	—	—	—	4	9*	1	—	—
Gampola.										
Justice of the Peace ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	9	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	—
Dimbula.										
Justice of the Peace ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Náwalapitiya.										
Justice of the Peace ...	1†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	15	5	1	—	—	1	8	—	—	—
Haldummulla.										
Justice of the Peace ...	10	3	5	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	7	1	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—
Pusselláwa.										
Justice of the Peace ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police Magistrate ...	10	2	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	—

* In one case, of three defendants one was acquitted and two were convicted; and in three cases the judgments were set aside in appeal.
† Committed for trial before Police Court.

IV.—1884.

REPORT

ON

TIDAL WAVES IN CEYLON

RESULTING FROM THE

ERUPTIONS IN THE STRAITS OF SUNDA IN AUGUST, 1883.

BY THE HON. J. STODDART,
ACTING SURVEYOR-GENERAL.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

TIDAL WAVES OF AUGUST, 1883.

The Hon the ACTING SURVEYOR-GENERAL to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 123. Surveyor-General's Office,
Colombo, 31st March, 1884.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter No. 57 of the 13th ultimo, requesting me to report to you the result of my inquiries as to the extraordinary rise and fall of the tide in August last, I have the honour to submit, in a condensed form, the substance of the reports I have received from the various stations round the coast of Ceylon, shown on accompanying map.

The questions asked were :—

(*a*) The extreme rise and fall of tide, and the number of times the waves appeared to come and go.
(*b*) If noises were heard, or any motion of the earth felt.
(*c*) The exact time, as near as obtainable.
(*d*) If any crack or fissure had been observed inland or along the coast.

Galle.—The Master Attendant reports that four unusual waves were noticed in the port at the hours of one, two, three, and half-past four on the afternoon of the 27th August, the last of which he witnessed himself and recorded as follows :—

"A most unusual receding of the sea ; the small boats at their usual anchorage being left by it,—a thing I had never seen before during my tenure of office since 1860.

"It was about one and a half minute in recession, and then about the same time in a sort of suspensory standstill, when it commenced quietly to rise again, taking about the same one and a half minute to reach the level of our highest high-water marks ; thus making from the lowest mark of recession to it a difference of eight feet ten inches. The usual tide rise and fall here is about two feet, and so the great difference caused by this disturbance was palpably from unusual recession."

Colombo.—The Master Attendant reports :—

"I find it difficult to get at the exact hour of the commencement of the tidal disturbance in this harbour, but I am informed by the man in charge of the landing-jetty that at about 2·30 P.M. on the 27th August there was a sudden rise of the sea to about 15 inches above the highest spring tide, and that shortly afterwards, within 15 minutes, the sea fell to about three feet below the lowest spring tide. I witnessed between 3·30 and 4·30 P.M. four rises and falls of the sea, and, as near as I can judge, there were 7 minutes 6 seconds between the highest point to which the sea rose and lowest point to which it fell. During this time there was a strong current in the harbour, which carried away the stern moorings of some of the steamers in port, and swung them round against the wind. The tidal disturbance went on more or less till 8 P.M. of the 27th, and I observed it again the next day about midday ; but the rise and fall of the tide then did not exceed one foot."

Negombo.—The information from this station is very meagre. The Mudaliyár of Alutkúru Kóralé North reported to the Assistant Government Agent :—

"No changes in the sea or land have occurred on the day in question, nor has any one witnessed any change. I am informed that there had been an unusual ebb-tide and flood-tide twice within half an hour in the mouth of the lake."

I have had no reports from Chilaw or Puttalam, but Mr. Vigors, the Police Magistrate of Kalpitiya, sent me an interesting and quaint report from Mr Vansanden, the Preventive Officer at Dutch Bay, which I give verbatim, as in one paragraph, where he describes the wash-away of a belt of land about two or three chains in extent, including the burial ground, it would appear as if the dead had sought shelter with the living in a neighbouring cocoanut garden !

"The so-called tidal wave had been felt here too on the 27th ultimo, about 3 o'clock P.M. The tide is said to have been observed coming in and going out three or four times in the space of one hour. This has been witnessed by the fishers who had been out at sea. The rise of the tide was so much above the usual water-mark, that many of the low morasses lying in close proximity to the seaside were replete with water that flowed into them ; but the water thus accumulated did not remain long, but, forming into a stream, wended its course in a southerly direction through low lands to a distance of nearly quarter of a mile, and found a passage back to the sea : thus the water that had so abruptly covered up such an extent of land did not take many days in draining off.

"Eke, I must say the receding waters were not slow behind in their action, for, having washed away a belt of land about two or three chains in extent, including the burial ground situated on the coast to the south-west of the bay designated as the Paravas' or Fishers' quarters, compelling the inhabitants to seek shelter in a neighbouring cocoanut garden. On the above date noises were heard by several persons, resembling the rumbling of distant thunder, or rather that of the booming of cannons, which lasted from 7 to 10 A.M. No motions of the earth were felt, nor have I heard of any crack or fissure having occurred either inland or along the coast in the vicinity"

Mannár.—The reports from this station are conflicting, and it is very doubtful if any sudden rise or fall of the sea was actually witnessed there by any one. Mr. Fowler, the Assistant Government Agent, reported :—

"I have caused careful enquiry to be made on the subject, but find that no rise or fall of the sea was noticed here on the 27th ultimo, although loud sounds, resembling the report of distant cannon, were heard to the eastward on that date.

"I may mention that there has been a curious change in the colour of the sun's disc, noticed in the early morning and in the evening since the 9th instant (September, 1883). It has appeared to be of a bluish-green colour."

In reporting on the state of the Searcher's house at the South Bar, the Sub-Collector of Mannár wrote on the 17th September to the Collector of Customs, Jaffna, as follows :—

"I have been to see the house on Saturday afternoon, and found it to be very much damaged, the sea having washed away a great part of the sand put for the floor of the building. Although the building is at a distance of about 255 feet from the sea, the sea appears to have risen all of a sudden during the latter part of last month."

In forwarding a copy of this report, Mr. Twynam, the Government Agent, says :—

"It appears that there must have been something unusual in the tide off the southern coast of Mannár in August." But he adds :—"I was told by the gentlemen who came up in the 'Serendib' with Mr. Justice Clarence, that they were informed that nothing was observed at Paumben."

It may be inferred from this that the strength of the tidal wave had become very much modified or exhausted by the time it reached the Gulf of Mannár, and from a further report of the Assistant Government Agent, I am inclined to the belief that the damage done to the Searcher's house was not caused by the tidal wave. Mr. Twynam goes on to say :—

"Nothing unusual was noticed in Jaffna or at Kayts in regard to the tide. No one seems to have heard any peculiar noises in Jaffna, nor to have felt any motion of the earth. I have not yet received any information of any crack or fissures having been observed anywhere on the coast."

Mr. Twynam has also furnished me with reports from the Sub-Collectors of Kankésanturai, Valluvedditurai, and Point Pedro, the most northerly ports of Ceylon on the Bay of Bengal, exposed to the north-west roll or wave from the Straits of Sunda, from which I quote as follows :

Kankésanturai.—"The extreme rise and fall of the tide, though not noted, was about two or three feet, and the number of times the tide appeared to come and go, though not counted over at the time, would be about three or four times. No noises were heard, or any motion of the earth felt on the occasion. Though the exact time cannot be stated, it was first noticed about midday, when a boat with import cargo at the wharf was said to have got aground all of a sudden."

Valluvedditurai.—"The usual rise and fall of the tide at this time of the year is from 2½ to 3 feet. On the 27th ultimo the rise was, at its maximum, 2 feet more than ordinary; the highest rise was at about 2·30 P.M. The number of times the waves appeared to advance and recede was about 10 or 12.

"A man of this place informed me that he counted 16 times, from 12 to 3 P.M., in which the wave appeared to come and go. As far as can be ascertained, it was about a quarter past 12 P.M. when the tide was first observed to rise. No noises were heard, nor any perceptible motion of the earth felt. The exact time was not noted, but it was about a quarter past 12 P.M. that the rise in the tide was observed. No cracks or fissures have been observed either inland or along the coast."

Point Pedro (29th August, 1883).—"A strange phenomenon, such as had never been witnessed before by the oldest masters of vessels and others belonging to this place, was observed in the sea on Monday last, the 27th instant, commencing in the forenoon and ending about sunset. The tide rose and fell in rapid succession more than a dozen times, and one or two boats with cargo, which were floating, were suddenly found to be high and dry. The wind at the time was blowing half a gale from south-west."

"And Mr. Maartensz, Sub-Collector, on the 19th September wrote again :—'I have the honour, in continuation of my report (29th August, 1883) to inform you that from about the forenoon till sunset of the 27th ultimo the rise and fall of the sea was observed by me and the people in the wharf to have been (unlike the usual rise and fall of the tides) of very frequent occurrence. The rush of water, both when the sea rose and fell, was with some force, giving it a hissing sound, but only once—and that was between 3 and 4 in the afternoon—the sea rose and flowed in beyond the ordinary limit, and went down rapidly in a few minutes so low as to have caused a boat, which had put off with a cargo, to get aground high and dry, and another empty boat to capsize at the wharf. The extreme rise and fall of water was not noted at the time, but it must have been about two feet above the ordinary level at the tides, and the rise and fall of the sea must have been over 20 times. The wind at the time of the occurrence was blowing rather stiff from south-west, and I could have seen, with the aid of a glass, that the vessels in the harbour were tossed about in different directions and the sea about their anchorage rising in bubbles. No noises were heard, nor any motion of the earth felt here or in the neighbourhood.'"

Mullaittivu.—Mr. Samuel Haughton, Assistant Government Agent, in forwarding some interesting reports by several of his headmen, says :—

"There can be no doubt as to the phenomena reported by the headmen along the coast having been connected with the recent fatal volcanic disturbance in the Straits of Sunda. Mr. Parker's report from Hambantota as to the occurrence of the phenomena so far south, showing that they must have been experienced along the whole eastern coast of Ceylon.

"The reports of the sea-coast vitánais of Mullaittívu and Kokkulai are of special interest, as showing that at sunrise on the 27th August the sky to the east was murky, and the rays of the rising sun obscured by the smoke in the Straits of Sunda. The subsidence and return of the sea was noticed all along the coast. The apparent proximity of the explosions reported from the Mullivavalai Pattu may be due to the hilly nature of the country there. Had there been any earthquake, it would have been felt in the villages near the hills."

The District Mudaliyár of Mulliyavalai reported that sounds were heard as though cannon were being fired from 12 o'clock on the night of the 26th August to 12 o'clock the next day. The sounds seemed to come from the east, and from no great distance. No cracks were seen in the earth, and it did not shake.

The police vitánai of Mullaittívu gives the following particulars :—

"The sea receded to 16 fathoms' distance and came back to the shore, I am told. This took place only once, I am told. No one heard any noise or sound here. No one saw any cracks in my villages, nor in the jungle. It did not appear that the earth shook here. The sun was not bright in the morning at about 6 o'clock, and in the evening from 4 o'clock its rays were green."

Similar reports were sent in by the police vitánais of Chemmalai and Kokkulai, in which it is stated that the sea receded and rose again ; that sounds as of firing of cannon at Trincomalee were heard ; and the vitánai of Kokkulai states that from the 27th August to the 4th September the sun and moon were blue-coloured. No cracks nor fissures were observed in the ground, and it did not shake.

Trincomalee.—The chief clerk of the Royal Engineer's Department at this station furnishes a report from reliable information supplied by the head mason, who was building a sea wall at Fort Frederick, from which I quote :—

"The extreme rise of tide, 4 feet at an average; the extreme fall of tide, 4 feet at an average. The number of times the wave appeared to come and go was about 13 times, of which the 6th, 7th, and 8th were those that caused more or less the extreme rise and fall above stated, and the rest were of course of a kind not to attract so much notice of the working men, bearing simply the appearance of a little extraordinary ebb and flow of the sea water. No noise heard (except what would be heard when a heavy swell of the sea would all of a sudden overflow its shore), nor any motion of the earth felt. The exact time was 1·30 P.M. on Monday, the 27th August, 1883. The sea receded three times and returned with force in a manner that would attract any one's notice on the spot, and no sooner the ground from the shore to a distance of about 30 feet appeared bare and displayed its sediments with fishes struggling about, and a few men (fishers) could have attempted to try their luck, than the sea returned. In about five minutes the sea on that day would have receded and returned twice. A similar change, I remember, took place at Gun Wharf Pier when work was going on there with a slight shock of an earthquake on 31st December, 1881, at 8 o'clock A.M."

Batticaloa.—In forwarding reports by the Sub-Collector and Signaller at that station, Mr. Elliott, Acting Government Agent, remarks :—

"I was myself absent from Batticaloa on that day and observed nothing, but on 27th ultimo at Kalmunai Mr. Christie, of the Public Works Department, told me he had heard loud explosions seawards that morning, and that as it sounded like the discharge of heavy artillery he presumed some man-of-war was practising with her big guns out of sight of land, as he could see no ships. Captain Walker and Mr. Fielder at Tampalancholai and Maha-oya, on the Badulla road, at various times on the forenoon of the 27th were puzzled by hearing noises as if blasting was going on, though there was nothing of the sort for a very considerable distance, if anywhere in this district. Mr. Smith, of the Public Works Department, observed the wave, which came up the lake and rose at his jetty about two feet vertically. I have not had any intimation of any fissure, or crack, or any motion of the earth in this district."

The Sub-Collector states that about 6 P.M. on the evening of the 26th he heard "a loud report as if a cannon was discharged down southward," which he and the people near him thought to be thunder ; then, on the morning of the 27th, about 7 A.M., he saw the water receding rapidly, and it rose quite suddenly a few minutes afterwards to about two feet over ordinary tide, which caused him to remark to the people that :—

"What was going on was the effect of an earthquake somewhere, as a similar phenomenon occurred here on the 31st December, 1881, immediately after the shock of earthquake was felt.

"The rise and fall of water continued the whole of Monday at intervals of about 10 minutes, the extreme rise and fall being about two feet each time. At about 3 P.M., on Monday I heard the noise of water rushing in with some force, and on peeping through the window I observed the water coming foaming near the causeway, and this time the water rose fully three feet. The rise and fall continued on Monday night too, and was slightly perceptible till about 10 A.M. on Tuesday.

"At the Bar, rushing of water in and out caused several openings in the sand bank, washing away a small portion of "Bones' Island" at the mouth of the lake, as reported. People on board the vessels at the anchorage mentioned to me that the vessels were much shaken about and positions changed every quarter or half-hour on Sunday night."

Mr. Casinader, the Signaller at the Flagstaff, states that :—

"About midnight on Sunday, the 26th ultimo, I heard about five or six times a noise similar to that of the noise of a cannon being discharged at intervals of 15 minutes, I believe, towards the sea in the east. Very early in the morning, I observed the cargo boats that were moored in the lake just opposite to Mr. Atherton's bungalow were on their move, but when I noticed it very closely I found the rise and fall of water at intervals of about 10 minutes ; and the height of the wave in the sea near the bar rose, in my opinion, to about eight feet about noon on Monday, and in the lake it was about three feet high ; and on Monday morning too, about three times I have noticed a noise similar to that of the discharge of a cannon in the sea towards the east, and after the highest rise of the water, at noon, no such noise was heard."

The Acting Government Agent, Eastern Province, gives further interesting particulars obtained by him while on a tour in the southern part of his Province in October last, regarding the effects of the tidal wave at Arugam Bay, and of the death of one Moor woman whom he supposes to have been a "solitary victim out of Java of the recent earthquake."

Arugam Bay is the most easterly bay in which ships can anchor on the east coast of Ceylon. It is situated nearly half-way between Batticaloa and Hambantota, and is directly exposed to any tidal wave from the direction of the Straits of Sunda. From the information

given by the Ratémahatmayá of Panama, the wave appears to have been felt with greater force at Arugam Bay than at any other place on the coast from which I have reports.

The Ratémahatmayá says :—

"On one day towards end of July [this must be a mistake for August] I was at Panama, and heard of an accident at the bar at Arugam Bay. Three Moor women, three children, and a man were crossing it about 3 P.M.; a big wave came up from the sea over the bar and washed them inland; soon after the water returned to the sea. The man said that the water came up to his chest: he is a tall man. These people were tumbling about in the water, but were rescued by people in boats who were fishing in the kalapuwa (inland estuary). They lost the paddy they were carrying, and one of the women died two days after of her injuries. I was further informed by the tindals in the ships anchored at the bay, they felt all of a sudden their vessels go downwards, until they plainly saw the ground and the ships were drawn seawards, and the people on the shore declared the anchors were exposed to sight. After this the wave came in and raised the vessels and overflowed the bar.

"Up the Návaláru (a stream further south), where the water was heretofore sweet, it has been salt since this time to a distance of at least a mile and a half in a direct line from the sea. In Panama, similarly, the salt water has come a long way inland."

From the testimony of the tindals (masters of vessels) and the people on the shore at Arugam Bay, it is quite evident that the negative wave, or general fall of the sea-level, was the first to affect the shores of Ceylon, and this is corroborated by the more accurate and reliable information obtained by Major Baird, R.E., from the various self-registering tide gauges under his charge at the Indian Tidal stations, which I shall refer to hereafter.

Hambantota.—This is the most southerly station in Ceylon from which I have received reports, and it completes the circuit of the Island. Mr. E. M. D. Byrde, who was Acting Assistant Agent at the time, reported that on the afternoon of the 27th August

"Between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock the sea kept on rising several feet above its ordinary level, and receding to a great distance, leaving the jetty almost dry, the water at the extreme end of it not being more than knee-deep. About every 20 minutes the sea completely covered the jetty and rose so high that it washed away one of the old surf-boats that was high and dry near the main road. I sent out a canoe to bring back the boat, but the current was so strong that it was impossible to save it, as it was carried with great rapidity across the bay and then dashed to pieces on the opposite shore.

"The waves did not, as is sometimes the case, break on shore with violence, but the sea rose gradually and similarly receded, and I should say, judging from an examination of the shore this morning, that it must have risen twelve feet or more above its ordinary level. The fishermen with some difficulty saved the canoe, and, with the help of a large gang of prisoners, the cargo boat was saved from being carried out to sea. The oldest inhabitants here never previously witnessed such an occurrence, and considered it worthy of notice."

Mr. Henry Parker, the officer in charge of the irrigation works at Tissamaharáma, a few miles inland from Hambantota, wrote an interesting letter on the 17th September to the Ceylon "Observer" on the subject of the eruption and discoloration of the sun, which I give here in full :—

"You will be interested to learn that the explosions which occurred at the recent volcanic eruption in the Straits of Sunda were very distinctly heard by many persons at Tissamaharáma near Hambantota, and at some places along the southern coast. The sounds, which closely resembled distant and occasionally rapid cannonading, lasted throughout the greater part of two days. With the change of the wind towards evening, the reports were not heard at Tissamaharáma (about five miles from the coast) during the intervening night; while at Amblantota, on the Walawé river, and at other spots further west, I understand that although nothing was heard during the day, the sounds were clearly audible during the whole time from dusk to dawn. Variations in the course and force of the wind will account for this. At Tissamaharáma we at first thought in the morning that the noises were due to rock-blasting taking place some miles away in connection with the irrigation works; but, when they were continued into the afternoon, we were unable to suggest anything better than that some vessels of the Indian Fleet must be going through large gun exercise while sailing along the coast. Here, the sounds appeared to come from the south-east instead of the east, this being doubtless due to the deflection caused by a low ridge which bounds the valley to the eastward.

"The peculiar green colour of the sun at sunset was noticed here, as in the rest of the Island, on the 9th, 10th, and 11th instant. I am strongly of opinion that your first surmise was correct, and that the greenness was solely due to the interposition of the minute particles of volcanic ashes *in the upper atmosphere*. If so, the dust must have first drifted north-west from the scene of the eruption, until it met with the upper current from the north-east, which would carry it along at a few miles an hour—sufficient to prevent its descent—until it reached the zone of tropical calms, south of the Equator, where it would naturally fall into the sea. The account of the eruption given by the officers of the "Almora" shows plainly that a strong upward current existed at the volcano, which must have carried the lightest particles probably some miles above sea-level. They would there find a series of aerial currents quite different from those flowing in the lower atmosphere, and, in fact, generally opposed to the latter. Part of the ashes might thus, as above stated, travel in a circuitous route until they passed over Ceylon; and from the vast extent of the eruption it is not at all improbable that there would be a sufficient volume of this dust to affect the colour of the sun, possibly by absorption of the red rays.

"It is most unlikely that the zodiacal light can have been the cause of the phenomenon; nor would the presence of even numerous sun-spots have had such an effect. Last year was, I believe, the maximum sun spot year. I had an opportunity of examining the disc of the sun in Paris through a large equatorial telescope, and I found it studded with "spots," yet there was no noticeable difference in its general colour. Were the zodiacal light the cause of the greenness, the peculiar effect would probably be observed either at regular intervals, or for a longer period than three days. It would further be noted, as also against this hypothesis, that the hazy appearance of the sky, evidently connected with the phenomenon, was not confined to the line occupied by the zodiacal light, but extended laterally also."

Strange detonations were also heard at Pérádeniya by Mr. Berwick, the District Judge,

about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 27th August. These sounds are the only ones that I have heard of as being noticed in the centre of Ceylon, and it would appear from Major Baird's calculations that they proceeded from the great eruption at Krakatoa.

In a paper by Lieutenant-General Walker, C.B., R.E., &c., Surveyor-General of India, published in "Nature" of February 14th, 1884, on the subject of "Earthquake Disturbances of the Tides on the Coasts of India," he laments, in the interests of science, the absence of proper tidal stations in Ceylon, such as have been established for years at 17 different places round the coast of India, also at Aden in the west and as far east as Port Blair in the Andaman Islands.

It is rather humiliating to think that Ceylon is still without a proper Observatory and Observer, with no self registering tide-gauges of its own, and that we are now indebted to the Indian Government for the erection of tide-gauges at Colombo and Galle, Major Baird having selected sites for them at both places on his visit here last month. The Colombo gauge was set in operation by him on 2nd February, 1884, and is now in charge of a clerk he brought with him from India. I am giving any little assistance in my power by supplying barometrical and thermometrical observations taken in my office at the hours of 7 A.M., 9·30 A.M., 3·30 P.M., and 6 P.M., also copies of the diagram from the self-registering anemometer showing the direction and speed of the wind.

The paper by General Walker is so valuable and interesting, embracing as it does a history of the earthquake wave which we felt so distinctly in Ceylon about 7 A.M., on the 31st December, 1881, that I take the liberty of transcribing it, not with the view of its being republished with my notes, but to show the accuracy which has been attained at great expense to the Government of India in matters of scientific observation and research, and the value attached to such observations:—

"For some years past tidal-stations have been established at various points on the coasts of India, from Kurachchi round *viâ* Cape Comorin and Adam's Straits to Calcutta, and on to Rangoon and Moulmein, also beyond these points, eastwards at Port Blair in the Andaman Islands, and westwards at Aden; but not anywhere in the Island of Ceylon, which happens—unfortunately for the interests of science—to be outside the administration of the Government of India. At each of the tidal-stations an observatory has been established, containing a self-registering tide gauge, and all requisite meteorological instruments, with a clerk in charge who tends the instruments, sets the driving clocks to true time—usually received telegraphically from Madras—and sends in daily reports to the supervising officer. That officer exercises a general superintendence over all the tidal-stations, inspects them periodically, collates and analyses the observations, and deduces from them the values of the 'tidal constants' for each port or point of observation; these constants enable future tides to be predicted, and tide tables to be prepared for the guidance of mariners; they are also otherwise valuable, in that they have thrown light on the question of the earth's rigidity, and on various other matters of scientific interest. The operations have been carried on in connection with the Great Trigonometrical Branch of the Survey of India. Major A. W. Baird, R.E., has been the supervising officer from their commencement in 1873 up to the present time, with the exception of an interval of a little more than a year, when he was on furlough in Europe; and Captain J. Hill, R.E., first, and afterwards Major M. W. Rogers, R.E., officiated for him.

"At certain of the Indian stations the registrations have twice indicated that the normal tides had been greatly disturbed by super-tidal waves, first, on the occasion of the earthquake in the Bay of Bengal on December 31st, 1881; and, secondly, during the volcanic eruptions in the Island of Krakatoa between Sumatra and Java, which occurred on August 27th and 28th last. The first disturbances do not appear as yet to have attracted much attention out of India; a full account of them is given in the general report on the operations of the Survey of India for 1881 to 1882, and also in the *Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* for March, 1883. The second are now famous all the world over, not merely because of the havoc they are known to have produced on the spot and at the time, but also because of the effects they are believed to have produced on the condition of the atmosphere long afterwards, and in far distant quarters of the globe. A report on the tidal disturbances at Indian stations, which were caused by the eruptions at Krakatoa, has been drawn up by Major Baird, and sent to me for communication to the Royal Society, and an abstract of it was read at the meeting of the Society on January 31st.

"I now propose to indicate certain points of similarity and others of dissimilarity between the recorded effects of the disturbing forces on the two occasions; for fuller details the reports themselves must be referred to.

"The usual effect of an earthqukae or volcanic eruption occurring at an island or under the bed of the sea is the transmission in all directions of an 'earth-wave' and a 'sea-wave'; the former travels with much greater rapidity than the latter, and may reach points which the latter does not reach; or it may die away and cease at points far short of those attained by the latter; which of the two will travel the greater distance depends generally on the structure and homogeneity of the strata through which the earth-wave is transmitted, and on the depth of water and configuration of the bottom over which the sea-wave passes.

"On the occasion of the earthquake of December 31st, 1881, the 'centre of impulse' was situated under the bed of the ocean in the western portion of the Bay of Bengal; the shock of the earth-wave was very violent in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and along the entire length of the Madras coast up to Calcutta, and also far inland. It was followed by a succession of sea-waves which the tidal diagrams show to have arrived after the earth-wave, at an interval ranging from half an hour at Port Blair (in the Adamans), the nearest station, to six hours at Dalhat (in Saugor island at the mouth of the river Hooghly), the furthest station at which such waves were certainly registered. At Rangoon, Moulmein, and various points in the Mergin Archipelago, the earth-wave was distinctly perceptible, though its shock was here much less violent; but no trace of a sea-wave has been met with at any of the tidal stations in this quarter; the belt of Islands and shoals which extends from Cape Negrais to the island of Sumatra, practically dividing the Bay of Bengal into two portions, must have formed a barrier to the sea-waves, for though great and numerous at Port Blair, they died away in the deep sea beyond, and in no case reached the eastern coast line. The position of the earthquake in the Bay of Bengal was necessarily not a matter of observation as at Krakatoa; but it has been inferred by Major Rogers from the following facts. The moment at which the shock of the earth-wave was felt happens to have been recorded with considerable accuracy at three places, two on the west coast of the Bay, viz., the Madras Astronomical Observatory and the tidal-station

at False Point; the third on the east coast, Kisseraing, a principal station of the Great Trigonometrical Survey, where Major Rogers was actually at the moment observing a distant station in the field of the telescope of his theodolite. He reports that "he saw the earthquake before feeling it," for he first became sensible of its occurrence by noticing the object which he was observing appear to rise and fall in the telescope; he immediately examined the spirit-levels of his instrument, found they were violently agitated, and made a note of the time. Subsequently he ascertained that the shock he felt and those recorded at Madras and False Point must have occurred almost simultaneously, due allowance being made for the differences of longitude. Therefore, assuming the earth-wave to have travelled from the centre of impulse with the same velocity in all directions the centre would be near that of the triangle joining the three points of observation, but probably a little to the south towards the line joining Port Blair and Negapatam, the stations at which the tidal disturbances were the greatest.

Having thus ascertained the probable position of the centre of impulse, Major Rogers proceeded to ascertain the probable time of the earthquake. Here, again, he was favoured by his facts. It so happened that his Assistant, Mr. Rendell, had just completed an inspection of the tidal-station at False Point, and was at work on a line of levels a few miles away, when he felt a violent shock of earthquake: he noted the time. The clerk at the station also felt the earthquake, and noted that the observatory was much shaken. Afterwards it was found that at the time recorded by Mr. Rendell the pencil of the tide-gauge had been vibrating very sensibly on the diagram; the vibration must have been caused either by the shaking of the observatory, or by a forced sea-wave such as is sometimes produced momentarily in shallow waters by a passing earth-wave. The great sea-wave, which was transmitted from the centre of impulse, arrived 3 hours 18 minutes afterwards. Now, there can be no question that the vibration mark on the diagram correctly registers the moment at which the earth-wave reached False Point. Major Rogers therefore conjectures, with much probability, that a similar very prominent vibration mark on the Port Blair diagram registers the moment of the arrival of the earth-wave at Port Blair. Thirteen minutes after the time thus registered, Major Rogers felt the earthquake at Kissaring, and as the distance between the two points is 400 miles, it may be inferred that the earth-wave travelled with a velocity of about 1,800 miles an hour. With this velocity the distance of the assumed centre of impulse from either of the three surrounding stations, and the time of the occurrence of the earth-wave at either station, Major Rogers calculates the time of the original disturbance when both the earth-wave and the sea-wave were initiated. Comparing this time with that of the arrival of the sea-wave at his stations, he obtains the following velocities for the sea-wave:—To Port Blair 360 miles an hour, to Madras and Negapatam 240, to False Point 180, and to Dublat 120. The average depth of the sea is known to diminish in every instance of diminished velocity.

"The sea-wave here specifically referred to was the first, and generally the greatest, of the super-tidal waves. Its amplitude from trough to crest was a maximum 36 inches at Negapatam, and 30 inches at Port Blair. It was always positive, the crest preceding the trough and raising the sea-level. The latter point is to be specially noticed, because the first result of the great eruption at Krakatoa was the reverse of this, namely, a negative wave or general lowering of the sea-level at the stations of observation, as will be shown more fully further on. Secondary sea-waves followed the first, disturbing the normal tides for some hours. Their greatest duration was 25 hours at Port Blair, the nearest tidal-station to the centre of impulse. A single earth-wave of a few seconds' duration is all that appears to have been perceived at the tidal stations; possibly, therefore, the whole of the tidal disturbances were due to a single earthquake

"Proceeding now to the eruptions at Krakatoa, we find that while there is no uncertainty as regards their locality—and there is evidence of one great eruption far exceeding all the others in violence—there is as yet no certain information of their number, nor of the times at which any of them, even the greatest, occurred. No earth waves appear to have reached India; but sea-waves of more or less magnitude were transmitted to all the tidal-stations on both coasts of the peninsula, and not alone to those on the east coast, as on the former occasion. They were also transmitted far beyond to Aden, the Mauritius, and the south-east coast of Africa, as shown in Major Baird's report. Lately it has been announced that traces of the sea-waves have been discovered at French tidal-stations on both coasts of the Atlantic.

"The principal facts set forth by Major Baird are the following:—

"1. Distinct evidence of tidal disturbance was met with at twelve of the seventeen Indian tidal-stations, including all which were fairly placed to receive the force of the impulse from Krakatoa; but, as in the previous instance, no disturbance was perceived at the stations on the east coast of the Bay of Bengal.

"2. The first result of the great eruption at Krakatoa was a negative super-tidal wave, or general fall of the sea-level at Major Baird's stations, and also at the Mauritius.

"3. This negative wave was succeeded by a great positive wave, at an interval ranging from 75 minutes at Negapatam, the station nearest Krakatoa, to 24 minutes at Aden, the most distant station.

"4. Super-tidal waves of greater or less magnitude were registered at the Indian stations some hours before the negative wave of the great eruption, showing that there must have been antecedent minor eruptions. They appear at Aden about three hours before the negative wave, and 18 hours before at Negapatam, showing that the explosions were at first comparatively feeble, affecting only the nearer stations; but afterwards they increased in intensity and became sensible even at Aden, a distance of over 4,000 miles.

"5. Waves of amplitudes ranging from a maximum of 22 inches at Negapatam to a maximum of 9 inches at Aden were registered at all the more favourably situated stations. The first was the positive wave immediately succeeding the primary negative wave, and it was generally of a greater amplitude than any other wave, but in a few instances it was succeeded by greater waves. The succeeding waves maintained considerable amplitudes—not less than half the maxima values—for about twelve hours, appearing at intervals of one or two hours apart at all the more prominent stations. They were succeeded by wavelets gradually diminishing in size, but continuing for some time, being traceable on the diagrams for August 29th and 30th, the second and third days after the great eruption. It is noticeable that they ceased first at Port Blair and Negapatam, the two nearest stations, and last at Aden, the farthest station.

"6. Loud reports, resembling the firing of distant guns, were heard at Port Blair on August 26th and 27th, and being supposed to be signals from a vessel in distress, a steamer was sent out in search of the vessel. Similar reports were heard on the 26th in Ceylon.

"These facts show that the great eruption at Krakatoa was preceded by minor eruptions sufficiently powerful to produce effects which were sensible at a distance of upwards of 4,000 miles; also that it was probably followed by minor eruptions, to the influence of which the long protracted continuance of tidal disturbance is due.

"The time at which the great eruption occurred is still not known with any precision. Major Baird has endeavoured to calculate it from the following data. He was informed by Her Majesty's Consul in Java

that the first great (positive) wave reached Batavia at 12 hours 10 minutes local time on the afternoon of August 27th; as the distance from Krakatoa by sea is 105 miles, and the average depth of the sea about 186 feet, he infers from the table of the velocity of free tide waves passing over seas of different depths, in Sir George Airy's article on "Tides and Waves" in the *Encyclopedia Metropolitana*, that the wave must have taken about two hours to reach Batavia, and therefore that it must have started at 10·5 A.M., Krakatoa time, allowing five minutes for the difference of longitude. Another estimate has been recently furnished by General Strachey in a paper read before the Royal Society on the "Barometrical disturbances which passed over Europe between August 27th and 31st." General Strachey connects these disturbances with the great eruption at Krakatoa, and infers, from the recorded evidence of the times of transit of the barometric waves over the European observatories, that the initial barometric rise occurred at 9 hours 24 minutes, Krakatoa time, on the morning of August 27th. Now we have seen that the first effect of the great eruption on the ocean was the production of a negative wave which preceded the great positive wave by an interval of seventy-five minutes at Negapatam and twenty-four minutes at Aden; if then we assume that the interval was somewhat more than seventy-five minutes at Krakatoa itself—as is to be inferred from the fact that wherever registered it increases as the distance from the centre of impulse diminishes—General Strachey's and Major Baird's determinations will be seen to corroborate each other very closely; indeed, considering the absolute independence of the two methods of deduction, the facts of observation being in one instance derived from the atmosphere, in the other from the ocean, the coincidence between the results is very striking.

"Major Baird has calculated the velocities with which the great positive wave travelled from Krakatoa to the more important of his own stations, and also to Port Louis in the Mauritius, and Port Elizabeth in South Africa.* Starting with the assumption that the wave left Krakatoa at 10·5 A.M., August 27th, local time, he finds that it attained its maximum value, 467 statute miles per hour, in transit to both Port Louis and Port Elizabeth. Considerable interest attaches to this determination, in that it is identical with Sir George Airy's tabulated value of the velocity of a free tide-wave passing over an ocean 15,000 feet deep, which is supposed to be the average depth of the ocean in this direction; moreover, the fact that the same velocity is obtained for both the ports, and that the nearer of the two is only 3,400 miles from Krakatoa, while the other port is 5,450 miles distant, indicates that there is probably no material error in Major Baird's adopted time of starting. The velocity of the wave in all other directions is less, viz., to Galle 397 miles, to Negapatam 355 miles, and to Aden 371 miles. The velocities are necessarily computed on the assumption of a uniform rate of progress from the origin to the point reached, but each of the slower waves must have coincided with the wave which impinged on Ports Louis and Elizabeth for a considerable distance in the early portion of its course, and it must then have travelled with the same high velocity; afterwards, on passing over shallower seas, the velocity must have much diminished, and very possibly it may have fallen to the smaller velocity values which Major Rogers has calculated for the sea-waves in the Bay of Bengal on the occurrence of the earthquake of December 31st, 1881.

"The Admiralty chart of the Eastern Archipelago shows that Krakatoa is situated at the focus of what may be regarded as a parobolic figure, formed by the contiguous portions of the coasts of Java and Sumatra; the axis of the figure is directed towards the Indian Ocean. Thus the waves generated by an eruption at Krakatoa would be mostly propelled towards that ocean, both directly and by reflection from the coasts; but near the apex of the parabola there is an opening—the Straits of Sunda—through which a great wave passed, carrying widespread destruction for some distance beyond along the contiguous coasts. This wave may have impinged with great force on the south-west corner of the Island of Borneo, which is on the prolongation of a straight line drawn from Krakatoa through the Straits. But it did not reach Singapore, where a tide-gauge is established, and which is within a third of the distance of the nearest Indian station from Krakatoa. The Master Attendant at Singapore reports that the gauge shows 'no difference whatever in the tide.' This is obviously due to the fact that the wave which passed through the Straits of Sunda had but a shallow sea to advance over towards Singapore, and its course must have been greatly impeded by numerous islands and shoals and the narrow straits and passages between them. For similar reasons, and because the axis of the parabola in which Krakatoa is situated is pointed towards the Indian Ocean, it is probable that the effects of the eruptions were not conveyed to anything like so great a distance along the numerous groups of islands to the east and into the Pacific Ocean."

It is now beyond doubt that the remarkable sunrises and sunsets which were observed in different parts of the world at various dates, after the great eruption at Krakatoa, were due to the presence in the atmosphere of sulphurous vapours and dust arising from that eruption. I observed that the Council of the Royal Society has appointed a Committee, of which Mr. G. J. Symons is the Chairman, to collect accounts of the volcanic eruption at Krakatoa and its attendant phenomena.

"The Committee invite the communication of authenticated facts respecting the fall of pumice and of dust, the position and extent of floating pumice, the date of exceptional quantities of pumice reaching various shores, observations of unusual disturbances of barometric pressure and of sea-level, the presence of sulphurous vapours, the distances at which the explosions were heard, and exceptional effects of light and colour in the atmosphere.

I have not heard of any floating pumice having been seen off the coast of Ceylon, or of any having reached the shore, but I will make further inquiries on these points. The other phenomena have all been observed and noted here, although, I regret to say, not with that precision and accuracy which is deemed essential in recording such remarkable occurrences.

The time noted in the various communications given in this paper may be reckoned as Colombo time, there being telegraph stations at Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee, and Jaffna which, with the exception of Jaffna, are in daily communication with the head office of the Meteorological Department in India.

At Galle, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa, the lowest barometrical readings during the month of August were registered on the afternoon of the 26th. At Colombo and Hambantota the readings were low, but not remarkable, as lower readings were recorded at Colombo on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 9th, and on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 11th at Hambantota, at which dates also the barometer readings at Galle, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa were very low.

* For these ports he employs the data published in "Nature," Vol. XXVIII, p. 626.

I annex a list of the barometrical observations made on the 26th and 27th August last at

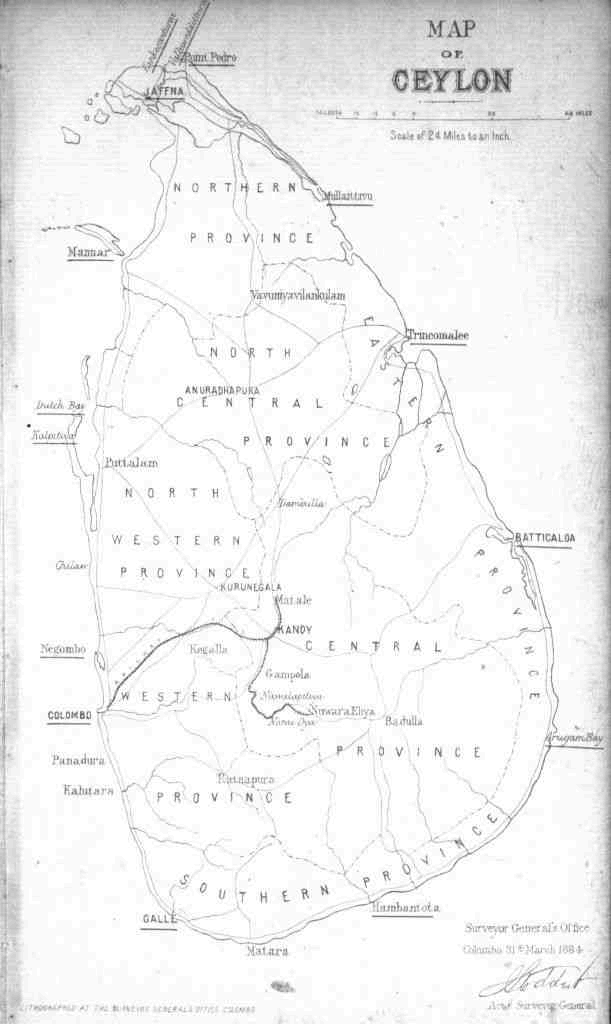
	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	Mean reading for the Month.		Difference.	
			9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.	9½ A.M.	3½ P.M.
On the 26th August.						
Colombo ...	29·832	29·721	29·852	29·758	— ·020	— ·037
Galle ...	29·769	29·628	29·843	29·728	— ·074	— ·100
Hambantota ..	29·789	29·675	29·811	29·712	— ·022	— ·037
Batticaloa ...	29 776	29·667	29·800	29·711	— ·024	— ·044
Trincomalee ...	29·597	29·470	29·636	29·537	— ·039	— ·067
On the 27th August.						
Colombo ...	29·863	29·749	29·852	29·758	+ 012	— ·009
Galle ...	29·859	29·653	29·843	29·728	+ ·016	— ·075
Hambantota . .	29·809	29·689	29·811	29·712	— ·003	— ·023
Batticaloa ...	29·834	29·761	29·800	29·711	+ ·034	+ ·050
Trincomalee ...	29·611	29 509	29·636	29·537	— ·025	— ·028

from which you will observe that there was a certain amount of disturbance visibly recorded on these days.

I have, &c.,

J. STODDART,
Acting Surveyor-General.

MAP OF CEYLON



Surveyor General's Office
Colombo 31st March 1884

Actg Surveyor General

LITHOGRAPHED AT THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE COLOMBO

V.—1884.

REPORT

ON THE

PRACTICABILITY OF A TRAMWAY BETWEEN KANDY AND BADULLA.

BY THE HON. J. STODDART,
ACTING SURVEYOR-GENERAL.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
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1884.

PRACTICABILITY OF TRAMWAY BETWEEN KANDY AND BADULLA.

The Hon. the Acting Surveyor-General to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 279. Surveyor-General's Office,
Colombo, 26th August, 1884.

Sir,—With reference to my letter No. 168 of 8th May, 1884, on the subject of a tramway between Kandy and Badulla, and your approval by letter No. 162 of the 12th May, of the proposal I made, I have the honor to forward a map on the scale of 1 inch to a mile, showing the rough topography of the country from Kandy along the Mahaveli-ganga to the Badulla-oya, into Badulla by Dikwella, and embracing the whole of the Walapané and Maturata Districts north of the mountain called Mahakudágala and Tottenham's road trace.

2. No direct route for a tramway or narrow gauge railway is practicable from Haragama up the Maha-oya to the north of the mountain called Diyataláwa through the Maturata and Walapané country, by what is generally known as Tottenham's trace (marked in sienna dotted lines on this plan), nor could any other trace be found across it, as the abrupt and high mountain ranges, with their enormous intervening ravines, intersect the whole of the country right down to the Mahaveli-ganga.

3. Every saddle, or gap, in the different ranges is too high to be reached by a trace at any reasonable gradient from the deep valleys below. To explain this more clearly, I have shown in red figures on the map the heights in feet above sea level of the lowest gaps in the ridges, also the heights of different fords and bridges.

4. Mr. Tottenham's road trace was judiciously selected, yet its gradients were 1 in 20 for two-fifths of the whole length; and even with such steep gradients, he stated in his report, dated 11th January, 1866: "I regret the whole distance (which will be 72 miles from Kandy to Badulla) "should have so much exceeded my calculations."

5. Colonel Eyers, R.E., Surveyor-General, while a member of the Railway Commission appointed to enquire into the feasibility of railway extension to Badulla, condemned this route in his memorandum of 11th July, 1874 (*vide* Sessional Paper II. of 1874), and in doing so quoted Mr. Molesworth's opinion as follows:—"Having generally examined the country between Badulla "and Kandy, and more particularly the district through which Mr. Tottenham's trace passes, I am "of opinion that the construction of a railway through that district is not practicable, except at a "cost which would not be justified by the traffic to be developed by its construction."

6. Having thus briefly described the difficulties, or rather impracticability, of a cross-country route, I shall now proceed to describe the route along which I consider it feasible to carry a line of 3 feet 6 inches gauge, with minimum curves of 3 chains and gradients not exceeding 1 in 50, and where such a railway could be worked, if provided with rolling stock of the most modern pattern, sufficiently powerful, and what is technically termed "flexible," to travel satisfactorily over such curves and gradients.

7. I have no intention to discuss the question of gauges in this report. My reason for adopting the gauge of 3 feet 6 inches is, that I believe it quite large enough to carry all the traffic that will ever be placed on it, even if the line were carried on to Batticaloa; it is adapted to the features of the country, and a good strong permanent way can be laid on this gauge, over which powerful engines can travel at a moderate speed, and I believe that the cost of construction would not be more than one-half of what we have paid, and are now paying, for our gigantic 5 feet 6 inches gauge, with its corresponding costly appurtenances.

8. Sir Charles Hutton Gregory, who is by no means a narrow-gauge enthusiast, says in the 19th paragraph of his letter of 19th March, 1867, Sessional Papers 1870–71:—"The conditions "under which an exceptionally narrow gauge is desirable are, I think, exceptional. The most "favourable condition for its use is, when country is very broken and precipitous, in which case a "narrower gauge, which admits of the introduction of sharper curves, enables a line to be laid out "along the sides of hills near the surface of the ground, and twisting in and out of the lateral "valleys or gorges."

9. Mr. Macnair made an estimate for a narrow gauge line to be laid over the trace on which the present broad gauge line is constructed from Náwalapitiya to Nánu-oya, which showed a saving of only Rs. 10,000 a mile, but he omitted the essential part of the work by which the great saving would have been effected in not having re-traced his line following the sinuosities of the various features by a reduction of his curves, which would have given him a totally different and much easier section to that on which the contract was given out.

10. The trace is shown in black on the accompanying plan, and may be called the Lower Badulla route. It commences from the Mátalé line at a point known as the Davie's ferry road crossing, on the Kandy side of the river near Katugastota railway-bridge, at an elevation of 1,493 feet above sea level, 2 miles and 70 chains out of the Kandy station, and runs along through

the fields and some gardens to the north of Lady Anderson's road, crossing the road to Léwella ferry, then on to Tennekumbura, where it crosses the Kandy and Maturata road, 3 miles and 50 chains from the junction, the average gradient being 1 in 223. It then skirts the base of the hill down to Ilukmódara bridge, a distance of 70 chains, at a gradient of 1 in 58. From Ilukmódara bridge it runs along the road, crosses the Talátu-oya at Kershaw's bridge, and continues on for a distance of 3 miles and 66 chains to Tibaṭuaráwa at the comparatively level gradient of 1 in 481. This makes in all 8 miles and 26 chains of an easy trace from the junction.

11. Our difficulties now begin, as we have to cut along the rough face of the hill in our descent to cross the Haragama-oya, a distance of 2 miles and 14 chains, at an average gradient of 1 in 88. Between the Haragama-oya and Máha-oya, a distance of 1 mile and 40 chains, the trace is level and fairly easy.

12. From the crossing of the Máha-oya, the trace goes alongside of the Mahaveli-ganga, rounding the end of the long spur known as Kondégala, and down the right bank of the river, a distance of 11½ miles to the crossing of the Bilihul-oya, at an average gradient of 1 in 113. This section is very rough in several places, and some rocks would in all probability require to be scarped, particularly Kattuganawagala, Bambaragala, and Patanagala, unless by careful tracing and variation of gradients they could be avoided.

13. The bridge across the Bilihul-oya will be 23½ miles from the junction at Katugastoṭa, 763 feet below the junction, and 730 feet above the level of the sea. Continuing onwards from Bilihul-oya at an average gradient of 1 in 132, we cross the Kurundu-oya, 3½ miles further on, at 590 feet above sea level, and at 31 miles and 60 chains, a further distance of 4¾ miles, we come to the left or west bank of the Umá-oya (marked A. in red on map), the bed at this point being 480 feet above sea level. From this point A. (to which I shall have occasion to refer hereafter), we continue up the Umá-oya by the black line along a rather rough and difficult piece of country, under the Bambaragala cliffs through an abandoned estate called Radaḷa, up past Bogoda to the gap near the Kittéwela ambalam, which is really 2,967 feet above sea level, but the formation level can be reduced 100 feet below this by a short tunnel through the saddle, so that the lowest formation level of the trace by this route would be about 510 feet, and the highest 2,867 above sea level, giving a rise of 2,357 feet in about 24¼ miles, with a firm and continuous gradient of 1 in 54 for the whole of that distance.

14. We then wind down round the hill which lies to the north of Dikwella and west of Badulla, and into the town to the terminus, at an estimated distance of 6½ miles from Kittéwela ambalam, at a gradient of 1 in 50, making a total distance of 62½ miles from Kandy to Badulla on a liberal estimate, and with no steeper gradient, if the line be carefully laid out, than that of 1 in 50 in the last 6½ miles.

15. The principal rivers to be bridged on this route are :—

			Feet.
Talátu-oya, with an approximate water-way of		.	130
Haragam-oya	do.	...	120
Maha-oya	do.	...	180
Bilihul-oya	do.	. .	200
Kurundu-oya	do.	...	200
Mala-oya	do.	..	150
Umá-oya	do.	...	260

in addition to which there are a considerable number of rough rocky ravines, over which liberal water-way would have to be provided, for although there was not a drop of water in them when we passed over them in the month of June, they bear evidence of being formidable torrents in the north-east monsoon.

16. There is abundance of stone in the vicinity of where the large rivers would be bridged, and I believe that rock foundations can be obtained for every bridge.

17. Limestone is plentiful at several places along the route. It crops up at Haragama, Maha-oya, Kattupattiwila and Kurundu-oya, and I have no doubt that it will be found at various other points, when search is made for it.

18. With regard to the local resources and climate, the information contained in Mr. Noad's report of 1865 on the question of opening up the Lower Badulla road, still holds good. None of the land is suitable for coffee or tea cultivation, and it is very questionable if cacao would grow on the 2,219 acres, situated between the Badulla-oya and Weli-oya, that was surveyed in 1881 for new products on the application of Messrs. Dick, Hall, and others (*vide* Colonial Secretary's letter No. 176 of 4th May and subsequent correspondence), as the heat, strong dry winds, and droughts are excessive for nearly nine months of the year.

19. With regard to the forest and climate, Mr. Noad wrote :—"A narrow belt of forest "extending from the Bilihul-oya to the Weli-oya (16 miles) contains satinwood, milla, nedun, and "other serviceable trees of a small size, which might be found useful in the construction of the "bridges." (It would therefore be useful for scaffolding and sleepers in the event of a railway being constructed.) "Another small block of forest exists about six miles from Taldena which "might be available for paddy, and, with these exceptions, stunted jungle and low chenas are "characteristic of the road throughout."

"The local information obtained on the spot was in perfect agreement with the experience of "the parties entrusted with the execution of the work. During a stay of about 80 days, not one "out of a gang of 60 coolies escaped fever : one-half were sent away disabled, and four died." The parties referred to were Messrs. Daveran, Arneil, and Rutherford, who made the survey and sections of the road between Haragama and Taldena during the months of May, June, and July, 1865 "The rains commence in November, at the change of monsoon from south-west to north-east, and "cease about the middle of January, a period which may be considered as the most healthy season.

"During this time the heavy freshets through the main tributaries prevent all traffic, whilst, in "strange contrast, the flow of the Mahaveli-ganga is comparatively placid."

"During the south-west monsoon a scene of quite an opposite description presents itself. "The great river is then flooded, whilst its tributaries are low, and the greater proportion of them "almost dry, and it is in this latter period, when a shower scarcely falls, that the deadly character "of the climate is most to be dreaded."

20. The red dotted line AB. (marked alternative trace) onwards from A. to near the confluence of the Badulla-oya, and up the left bank of the Badulla-oya through the Ridipané gap, could probably be made in 2½ miles less than the trace up the Umá-oya, and on an easier gradient, as the Ridipané gap is 430 feet lower than the proposed formation level at Kittéwela ambalam, but a considerable portion of the distance is exceedingly rough and precipitous, particularly at the Maluadda rock, which would have to be scarped or tunnelled. Still, it is worth a trial, if it is ever decided to make a railway by the lower route.

21. Another point to be considered is that a cheap railway to Batticaloa could be carried across the Badulla-oya and Logal-oya, skirting the northern end of the Héwá Eliya and Madulsima ranges through Bibilé, almost in a direct line past Rugam to Eráur, at the northern end of the Batticaloa lake, and thence to Batticaloa, at a roughly estimated distance of 75 miles from the junction, which is 36 miles from Kandy.

22. This would make the line from Kandy to Batticalon the trunk, or main line, and the branch into Badulla, a feeder of it.

23. It may seem chimerical to speak of a trunk line, or of any line at all, to Batticaloa by that route on a 3 feet 6 inches gauge, but I will try to show that it is not so wild an idea as may at first sight appear.

24. Ceylon is a small country, having no mineral or heavy grain traffic like America or India, no immense expanses of flat country over which trunk lines hundreds of miles in length can be laid; a mistake was therefore, in my humble opinion, made in the first instance in carrying a 5 feet 6 inches gauge into the hill-country, as the construction of a track to suit that gauge is far too expensive, and there is no actual necessity for such gigantic works for the light traffic we have; besides, too little attention has been paid hitherto as to where roads and railways might be ultimately extended.

25. Land is being successfully cultivated in cacao at Maha-oya, nearly midway between the Logal-oya and Batticaloa, on the route this line would take, and it is not improbable that this cultivation may be considerably extended in the course of a few years. The new cacao estate at Maha-oya is on the south-eastern side of a great forest which contains, according to Mr. Vincent's map, satinwood, ebony, and halmilla.

26. In concluding this report, I cannot disguise the fact that I consider the Mahaveli-ganga route a very unhealthy one, although perhaps not more so than that portion of the main line between Polgahawela and Rambukkana was during construction, the difference being that there are no villages or cultivation for many square miles between the hill villages of the Gampaha Kóralé and the Mahaveli-ganga, whereas the villages along the main line, between the points I have referred to as being unhealthy, were more or less inhabited and cultivated. Still, I believe if care were exercised in housing labourers and others above the mist line of the river, the tendency to fever would be considerably diminished.

27. There are many engineering difficulties which present themselves along the route, for about three-fourths of its entire length. Large water-ways have to be provided, cliffs have to be scarped, galleried, or tunnelled in several places, yet they are not insurmountable, and many of the apparent difficulties would, in all probability, be overcome by a carefully laid out trace.

28. My thanks are due to the Government Agent, Mr. Dickson, to his Assistant, Mr. G. A. Baumgartner, and to their headmen, for the ready assistance rendered in finding us temporary accommodation, and affording us every information which helped us to get over the ground so rapidly.

29. Mr. D. G. Mantell, Chief Surveyor, who accompanied me on the trip, rendered me invaluable and ready assistance. He took the levels from Kandy to Katugastota, Kandy to Haragama, and a number of levels in the vicinity of Haragama, to determine the probable position of the trace. He made the topographical sketch on the small scale, from which the accompanying map is compiled and copied, and he helped me to compute the heights.

30. Mr. Warren also performed his portion of the work at the Badulla end expeditiously and with credit to himself, viz., the flying survey and levels of the road from Dikwella to Madulla-gap, and from Taldena into Badulla.

I have, &c.,

J. STODDART,
Acting Surveyor-General.

VI.—1884.

CASH BALANCES OF THE COLONY.

STATEMENTS

SHOWING

I.—The Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained.

II.—The Total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1883, including the Balances of all Lapsed Votes to that date.

III.—The Balance of the Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1883.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

CASH BALANCES OF THE COLONY.

I.—Statement showing the Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained.

	Rs.	cts.
Cash Balance on 31st July, 1884	2,148,925	21

N.B.—Of this amount, Rs. 480,891 12 are locked up in the Oriental Bank Corporation.

II.—Statement showing the Total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1883, including the Balances of all Lapsed Votes to that date.

Nil.

III.—Statement showing the Balance of Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1883.

	Rs	cts
Balance on 31st December, 1883	275,104	13

Audit Office,
Colombo, 19th September, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

VII.—1884.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT.

REVISED CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS, 1885,

TOGETHER WITH

A NOTIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS,

PREPARED BY

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS, 1885.

PRELIMINARY CHAPTER.

1. A sum of money is annually voted for grants-in-aid.

2. These grants are administered by the Department of Public Instruction, hereinafter called the Department.

3. The object of the grant is to *aid* local exertion, under certain conditions : (*a*) to maintain schools ; and (*b*) to train teachers.

4. Aid to maintain schools is given by annual grants to the managers, conditional upon the attendance and proficiency of the scholars, and the state of the schools.

5. No grant is made in respect of any instruction in religious subjects.

6. Officers are employed to verify the fulfilment of the conditions on which grants are made, and to report the results to the Department. For the convenience of managers the instructions of the Department, issued to these officers, will be published annually as an appendix to the rules and regulations for grants-in-aid, hereinafter called the code.

7. These officers are appointed by Government and are called inspectors or assistant inspectors.

8. No grant is paid except on a report from one of these officers that the conditions of the grant have been fulfilled.

9. The Department, at the time of agreeing to make grants to schools, informs the managers in what month to look for the inspector's annual visit. This month remains the same from year to year, unless the Department informs the managers of a change. Notice of the day of the inspector's annual visit is given beforehand to the managers.

10. An inspector, or assistant inspector, may visit any aided school at any other time without notice.

11. No undertaking should be commenced in general reliance upon aid from Government. Grants cannot be claimed for any school, irrespective of the circumstances of the case and the limits of the sum at the disposal of Government. Should a grant be refused the reason for its refusal will be communicated to the applicants.

12. As a general rule, no application will be entertained for aid to a boys' school when there already exists a flourishing boys' school of the same class within two miles of the proposed site, without some intervening obstacle, unless the average daily attendance for six months prior to the date of application exceeds 60. An anglo-vernacular school will be considered as of the same class as a vernacular school.

12 *a*. Every application for the registration, change of site, or transfer of management of a school will be notified in the "Government Gazette."

13. The proprietors of a school must appoint a correspondent with the Department, who will be hereinafter called the manager, and must give notice of any change of correspondent. Teachers cannot act as managers of, or correspondents for, the schools in which they are employed.

13 *a*. Before any grant is made to a school, the Department must be satisfied that the school is not carried on under the management of any person or persons who derive emolument from it.

14. No article in this code shall be revoked, altered or amended without the previous sanction of the Governor and Executive Council, and any such revocation, alteration, or amendment shall be published in the "Government Gazette."

15. The code shall be printed each year in such a form as to show separately all articles cancelled, or modified, and all new articles since the last edition, and shall be laid on the table of the Legislative Council within one calendar month from the opening of the session.

16. The schedules annexed to the code, including the instructions issued to Inspectors, shall have the same effect as the articles of the code, and shall be subject to the provisions of articles 14 and 15.

CHAPTER I.

Annual Grants.

Section I.—*Preliminary Conditions.*

17. The managers of aided schools must furnish all returns that may be required by the local Government or by the Department.

18. Managers of private schools unconnected with any recognised society or public body will be required to give substantial security for the maintenance of such schools for a period of not less than three years before they can be entered on the register. A form of bond to be entered into in these cases may be obtained from the Director of Public Instruction.

19. Applications for grants must invariably be made on forms supplied for that purpose by the Department.

20. Before any grant is made to a school, the Department must be satisfied that—

(*a*) Scholars are being instructed in at least two of the standards set forth in schedules B., D., E.

(*b*) The average daily attendance for three months prior to the application is not less than

*(a) In towns.**

In a boys' school	50
In a girls' school	30
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	60

(b) In villages.

In a boys' school	30
In a girls' school	20
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	30

(c) In C. schools (Vide infra.)

In a boys' school	15
In a girls' school	10
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	15

(*c*) The girls in a girls' school are taught plain needle work as part of the ordinary course of instruction.

(*d*) Registers of admission and daily attendance are accurately kept, and that the rules for keeping school registers printed on the first page thereof are carefully carried out, and that the registers are marked every time the school meets, and that adequate time is allowed in the Time Table for marking the registers, and that the returns furnished are trustworthy, and that

(*e*) The school buildings, furniture, and apparatus are sufficient according to the requirements for registration, and in good repair.

21. Any school accepted by the Department which ceases to fulfil any of the above conditions, or which fails to earn 50 per cent. of pass s at the annual examination, will, unless satisfactory reasons be furnished to the Department, be removed from the list of aided schools. If the manager wishe s to revive at any time a school removed from the list, application must be made in the same form as for a new school.

22. Grants are made on the same terms to all practising schools attached to training schools.

SECTION II.— *Registration.*

23. Schools may be registered for grants-in-aid either as vernacular, Anglo-vernacular, or English schools, and as primary, middle, or high schools.

Vernacular Schools.

24. Vernacular schools may be registered as primary, middle or high schools.

Vernacular primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented for grant above standard V.

Vernacular middle schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination in any standard above standard V.

No vernacular primary school will be examined as a middle school unless it has been registered as a middle school during the year preceding the examination, and unless it has already presented successful candidates in the Vth standard

A vernacular middle school may include a primary school.

Vernacular high schools are schools in which scholars are instructed in classical Singhalese, Sanskrit, Pali, or Tamil literature Grants to such schools are only made in exceptional circumstances, and every application for such schools will be considered by the Government on its special merits.

Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

25. Middle vernacular schools may present for examination in English all or any scholars who have passed the IVth standard. Such schools are hereinafter called Anglo-vernacular schools. No school will be examined as an Anglo-vernacular school unless it has been registered as such during the year preceding the examination. Scholars may be presented for English passes in any of the four English standards, but no scholar will be examined twice in the same standard.

English Schools.

26. English primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented above the Vth standard.

English middle schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination in standards VI., VII. or VIII.

English high schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination at the Cambridge local examination, or for Matriculation at the University of Calcutta or Madras, or in any of the specific subjects of examination enumerated in Schedule C.

An English middle school may include a primary school, and a high school may include middle and primary schools.

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* NOTE.—The places to be considered as towns for the purposes of this Code are as follows :—

Western Province.	*Within*
Colombo ...	Municipal limits.
Kalutara ...	Police limits.
Negombo ...	do.
Southern Province.	
Galle ...	Municipal limits.
Mátara ...	Police limits.
Central Province.	*Within*
Kandy ..	Municipal limits.
Eastern Province.	
Batticaloa ...	Police limits.
Trincomalee	do.
Northern Province.	
Jaffna ...	A radius of 1½ mile from the Fort.

No English primary school will be examined as a middle school unless it has been registered as such during the year preceding the examination.

27. No school will be registered as an English high school unless the Department is satisfied :—

(*a*) That the teaching staff is sufficient in number and quality.

(*b*) That the managers are in a position to guarantee the stability of the school.

28. Middle and primary schools may be registered as A., B., or C. schools.

A. Schools.

(*a*) Before a middle or primary school is registered as an A. school, the Department must be satisfied that the school buildings are expressly adapted for school purposes ; that they afford sufficient accommodation, and are kept in good repair.

(*b*) That the school is not surrounded by other buildings to such an extent as to exclude light and air, and that particular regard is paid to health and cleanliness both in the persons of the pupils and in the arrangements and condition of the school premises.

(*c*) That the supply of school materials, maps, and other appliances for teaching, desks, black-boards and other furniture, books, writing materials, &c., are in sufficient quantity, and in good order.

(*d*) That the regular work of the school is conducted in an orderly and disciplined manner, and in accordance with a satisfactory time table.

B. Schools.

29. Upon the report of the inspector that an A. school does not fulfil these conditions, notice shall be given on form to the manager, and if at the next annual examination the requirements of the code are not satisfied, the result payments will be made on a lower scale, the value of a pass in any standard or subject being R. 1. The school will then be classed as a B. school.

30. New schools may be accepted provisionally as B. schools until the manager has time to complete new buildings and provide suitable furniture, but no school shall be allowed to remain on the B. list for more than one year. After that time, if the Department is not satisfied, it will be removed.

Examination.

31. Managers of schools may claim after the annual examination—

(*a*) For every scholar presented in standards I.—VIII., a sum calculated on passes achieved according to schedules F, G.

(*b*) No grant will be allowed for any scholar who shall have received less than nine months' instruction, during the twelve months immediately preceding the examination, in the school in which he is examined, and who shall have made less than 100 attendances.

NOTE.—In reckoning nine months' instruction, the month fixed for the examination may be included. The month of admission is not to be included unless the scholar is admitted on the first school day of the month.

(*c*) At a first examination, scholars may be grouped in any standard fixed by the manager, but scholars may not be presented a second time for examination under the same standard unless they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads. If they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads they will be considered to have failed altogether, and no result payment can be claimed for them.

(*d*) No grant will be allowed for any scholar over twenty years of age on the day of examination.

(*e*) No grant will be made for any scholar in standard I. who is over twelve years of age.

(*f*) No scholar shall be eligible for examination unless he shall have been protected from small-pox by having previously had that disease or by vaccination.

(*g*) Schools in which the scholars presented fail to earn 20 per cent. of passes in any one of the subjects, *Reading*, or *Writing* or *Arithmetic*, will receive result payments as B. schools.

(*h*) Falsification of the register will involve forfeiture of half the grant for the year, and in the case of certificated teachers the certificate will be suspended.

(*i*) Due notice having been given of the date of examination of any school, if the inspector finds that the school is not ready on the day of his visit, the expenses of the inspector's second visit will be deducted from the grant earned by the school, but the Department does not bind itself to hold a deferred examination.

(*k*) No grant can be claimed for any girl taught in a school registered as a boys' school, or for any boy over ten years of age taught in a school registered as a girls' school. No school will be examined as a mixed (boys' and girls') school unless registered as such.

(*l*) The grants will be paid, if possible, within three months of the day of examination.

C. Schools.

32. Schools in outlying, sparsely-populated and neglected districts, unable to fulfil the conditions attached to A. schools, may be registered as C. schools under the following regulations :—

(*a*) All scholars presented for examination without limit of attendance will receive the same grant as A. schools for passes achieved, but no child can be examined twice in the same standard.

(*b*) An average daily attendance for three months of fifteen boys or ten girls, or fifteen boys and girls in a mixed school, will be accepted as sufficient in application for registration as C. schools.

(*c*) In all other respects the regulations applying to A. schools will apply to C. schools.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

33. A scheme for the application of result payments to manual instruction is in preparation. In the meantime, applications for grants-in-aid to industrial schools will be entertained on the following conditions :—

(*a*) The school shall teach a trade or trades to be approved by the Department.

(*b*) **The workshops must be sufficiently provided with appliances for elementary instruction in the trade or trades to which the school is devoted.**

(*c*) **The master of each workshop must be qualified to teach his trade.**

34. The managers of an industrial school registered by the Department may claim, in addition to the general grants, for each boy above the age of ten years certified to have been in regular attendance for nine months since the previous annual inspection of the school, and to have received instruction in the workshop for not less than three hours daily, a grant of five rupees.

Form of Certificate.

I, *A. B.*, manager of the registered industrial school , certify that every boy on this list has regularly attended this school for nine months since the date of the last annual inspection, and has received instruction in the trade specified opposite to his name for three hours daily on not less than 100 days.

Name.	Age.	Trade.	Number of attendances.

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOLS.

35. In girls' day schools an allowance will be made for needlework. (Schedules F., G.)

Each girl shall be required to produce a specimen of needlework done in the presence of the Inspector, according to the following scale of Standards :—

STANDARD I.

Neat hemming.

STANDARD II.

Hemming, sewing and felling so as to be able to make a bag ; also patch-work.

STANDARD III.

The former stitches and back-stitching, to be able to make pillow-cases; also marking.

STANDARD IV.

As before, and to put in a neat gusset so as to make their own jackets.

STANDARD V.

Stitches as before, also button holes and darning, and to be able to cut out a jacket.

STANDARD VI.

As in the previous standards; also to be able to cut out and make under-jackets. Knitting *may be taught in this Standard.*

STANDARD VII.

As before ; also to be able to put in a neat patch and to make a little child's frock, pinafore, or shirt ; knitting.

STANDARD VIII.

As before, and to cut out and make a plain shirt with yoke back and gathered sleeves put into wristbands ; knitting.

GIRLS' VERNACULAR AND ANGLO-VERNACULAR BOARDING SCHOOLS.

36. In girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools the value of a "pass" will be twice the value of a corresponding "pass" in day schools. (Schedule G., Note.)

37. When the day-girls do not amount to more than one-fourth of the number of boarders, their passes will be computed at the same rate as boarders. When the number of day-girls is in excess of one-fourth of the number of boarders, their passes will be calculated as for scholars in day schools. Applications for grants in favour of girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools will be entertained without reference to the limitations prescribed in section 1, ¶ 20.

CHAPTER II.

SECTION I.

Teachers.

38. No new boys' school will hereafter be accepted as a grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular, or vernacular A. school, unless the principal teacher holds a certificate or license from the Department, provided that in the case of vernacular schools desired to be established in backward districts, special circumstances may be submitted to the Department.

39. The certificates issued will be of three classes.

40. A third-class certificate will entitle the teacher to hold the appointment of principal teacher in a primary school.

41. A second-class certificate will entitle the teacher to hold the appointment of principal teacher in a middle school.

42. A first-class certificate will be given to teachers who hold second-class certificates only after five years' service either in the same school or in different schools under the same management: it will entitle the holder to an annual payment from Government in augmentation of salary, on conditions to be fixed hereafter.

43. A certificate of the third class will be issued to every registered pupil-teacher who has completed three years' approved service as pupil-teacher in conformity with the rules of the Department: it will be issued provisionally, and confirmed after two years' satisfactory probation, either as principal teacher of a primary school or as assistant teacher of a middle school on the certificate of the manager.

44. Provisional third-class certificates will be confirmed also after one year's training in an aided training school, provided that the holder shall have satisfied the examiners in the first year's examination.

45. A certificate of the second class will be issued to all students of a training school inspected by the Department who have completed two years' residence and passed the final examination to the satisfaction of the examiners appointed by the Department.

46. This certificate will not entitle the teacher to hold an appointment as head teacher of an Anglo-vernacular school unless he has passed the qualifying examination in English appointed for each year of the training school course.

47. A certificate of the second class will also be issued to any holder of a third-class certificate after three years' continuous service in the same school or in different schools under the same management, on the recommendation of the manager; provided that the candidate has passed the final examination required of the students of training schools. It will be issued provisionally and confirmed after one year's satisfactory probation as teacher of a middle school, certified by the manager and the Department.

48. Up to the 1st day of January, 1886, certificates will be issued:—

(*a*) Of the third class to any teacher who has been for three years in continuous charge of the same school or of different schools under the same management, and has presented scholars for examination at each annual inspection, and has earned result payments on not less than 50 per cent. of passes, on the certificate of the manager to his ability and industry.

(*b*) Of the second class to any teacher who has earned result payments, under the same conditions as above, in the VIIIth standard* for three consecutive years immediately preceding the date of application for the certificate.

49. It shall be in the power of the Director to issue certificates of the second or third class to any teacher, who holds a certificate of competency from any recognized Normal school or training establishment in Europe or in any part of the British Empire or in America.

49 *a*. Licenses will be issued to teachers in grant-in-aid schools on the following conditions:—

A.—Licenses will be of two classes. Licenses of the second class will entitle the holder to hold an appointment as head teacher in a primary vernacular school. They will be issued to candidates who passed a satisfactory examination in the following subjects:—

Reading.—Good fluent reading, with comprehension, of a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual, or other book or document printed in correct modern Tamil or Sinhalese.

Writing.—To write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies of text-hand and small-hand; dictation.

Arithmetic.—As for VIth standard of vernacular schools, with vulgar fractions.

Geography.—Ceylon and Asia.

School Management.—Teaching a standard not higher than standard IV. in the presence of of the examiner. Method of keeping school registers. Examination in the code for grant-in-aid schools.

B.—Licenses of the first class will entitle the holder to hold an appointment as head master of a middle vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school. They will be issued to candidates who passed a satisfactory examination in the following subjects:—

Reading.—Reading with fluency and expression from a classical vernacular book, with grammatical analysis.

Writing.—A short essay or letter; to write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies.

Arithmetic.—As for standard VIII.

History.—History of Ceylon.

Geography.—As for standard VIII.

School Management.—(1) To teach a class in the presence of the Inspector; (2) To answer questions in writing on the following subjects:—

a. The different modes of organizing a school;
b. The keeping of registers; the Code;
c. Notes of lessons; questions of discipline.

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* Or standard VI. of old Code

Candidates for Anglo-vernacular licenses will be required to pass in the English subjects required for the VIIIth standard in Anglo-vernacular schools.

The first examination for licenses will be held in December, 1883, at such centres as shall be found most convenient for the candidates.

50. After the 1st day of January, 1886, no principal teacher shall be appointed to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' school in receipt of grant, unless he holds a certificate or license of the Department.

51. After the 1st day of January, 1888, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the Department.

Section II.

Pupil Teachers and Training Schools.

52. In order to enable managers to meet the future requirements of the code, by the systematic training of students for the profession of teaching, grants will be made for (*a*) pupil-teachers and (*b*) training schools.

53. Pupil teachers are boys or girls selected by the manager to assist the teacher of a school in maintaining discipline, and instructing the lower classes.

54. In making this selection the manager is required only to observe the following regulations:—

(1) Before pupil-teachers are submitted to the Department for registration, application must be made in the form prescribed (schedule II.); they must have passed the Vth or a higher Standard in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and at least one additional subject.

(2) Pupil-teachers at the date of registration must be not less than 14 years of age, completed.

55. Pupil-teachers will be registered in such schools only as satisfy the following conditions:—

(*a*) The whole school must be favourably reported on by the inspector as regards

1.—Discipline.	3.—Premises, furniture, apparatus, &c.
2.—Instruction.	4.—Stability.

(*b*) The school must have obtained a grant for at least three years preceding the date of application, if an English school,* in standards VI., VII., VIII.; if a vernacular school† in standards V., VI., VII.

(*c*) To entitle a school to one pupil-teacher, the average number of pupils examined for a grant during each of the three preceding years must be not less than forty; for every additional fifty in average attendance during three successive years, a school will be entitled to an additional pupil-teacher; but not more than two pupil-teachers will be registered for any school during the same year.

56. The course of studies for pupil-teachers is laid down in schedules I. and J.

57. Every pupil-teacher presented for examination must produce a certificate from the manager of his school in the prescribed form (schedule K.).

58. No pupil-teacher can be presented for his first examination within nine months of the date of registration.

59. The inspecting officer examining the school for a grant will at the same time examine the pupil-teacher in the subjects laid down, and will require him or her to give a lesson in his presence to one of the lower classes. If he is satisfied with the candidate's proficiency, he will sign the certificate, upon which the manager may claim a grant.

60. If a candidate fail to satisfy the inspector, he may be presented again at the next annual inspection, in the same subjects of examination, but no result-payments for a candidate who fails can be claimed at the time of failure.

61. Grants will be made for pupil-teachers as follows:—

First year's Examination.

English schools, Rs. 50 + grant in full for VIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 30 + grant in full for VIth standard pass.

Second year.

English schools, Rs. 75 + grant in full for VIIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 50 + grant in full for VIIth standard pass.

Third year.

English schools, Rs. 100 + grant in full for VIIIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 75 + grant in full for VIIIth standard pass.

Note.—The additional grant for a pass in any standard will not be paid on account of any pupil-teacher who has already earned a grant in the same standard.

Training Schools.

62. Grants-in-aid will be made to vernacular and Anglo-vernacular training schools, for male or female teachers, under certain conditions.

63. The Department must be satisfied that

(*a*) The staff of teachers is sufficient in number and quality;
(*b*) The managers are in a position to guarantee the stability of the school;
(*c*) There is a practising school, in which students may learn the exercise of their profession, either immediately connected with the training school or within easy reach, and under the same management.

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* Or standards IV., V., VI. of the old Code. † Standards IV. and V. of the old Code.

Grants to Training Schools.

64. An examination of candidates for admission to training schools will be annually held in the month of December.

65. The examination will extend to all the subjects required of pupil-teachers in the course of their engagement.

66. Candidates who desire to qualify as Anglo-vernacular teachers will have to satisfy the examiners in the English part of the examination.

67. The candidates are selected and admitted to the examination by the authorities of each school on their own responsibility, subject to no other conditions on the part of the Department than that the candidates—

(*a*) Intend *bonâ fide* to adopt and follow the profession of teacher;
(*b*) Having been pupil-teachers, have successfully completed their engagement;
(*c*) Not having been pupil-teachers, or not having completed their engagement as pupil-teachers, will be more than seventeen years of age on the 1st of January next following the date of examination. At each examination a certain number of successful candidates, in proportion to the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular aided schools, will be appointed Queen's scholars.

68. The number of Queen's scholarships to be competed for annually by boys is at present fixed at 5 per cent. on the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular aided boys' schools.

69. The number of Queen's scholarships to be competed for by girls is also fixed at 5 per cent. on the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular girls' schools.

70. The Queen's scholarships will be awarded to the most successful candidates presented for examination by each school, in the order of merit; provided that the number of Queen's scholarships to be allotted to any manager or managers shall not exceed 5 per cent. upon the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools under the same management

71. At the end of one year after admission to a training school as a Queen's scholar, an examination will be held in the subjects prescribed in schedule L., and the managers will be entitled to a grant of 100 rupees for every Queen's scholar who passes such examination satisfactorily. Queen's scholars who fail to obtain one-third of the marks in reading, or in writing, or in arithmetic, will forfeit their scholarships.

72 At the close of the second year there will be a final examination, and for each successful Queen's scholar the manager will receive the final sum of 150 rupees, making up the total value of the scholarship.

CHAPTER III.

Section 1.

Superior Instruction.

73 The assistance granted by the Department for the encouragement of superior instruction will be in the form of:—

1st —Public examination.
2nd.—Payments on the results of examinations.
3rd —Scholarships and exhibitions

Public Examinations.

74. The examinations conducted by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge for local examinations, hereinafter styled the senior and junior local examinations, will be the standard of examination, and will take the place of the local examination hitherto held No marks obtained for the subject of religious knowledge will be allowed to count in awarding the scholarships, exhibitions and prizes referred to in this code.

The scholarships and prizes awarded are limited to candidates being *bonâ fide* students in Government and Grant in-aid schools.

Junior Local Examination.

75. On such day in each year as may be appointed the junior local examination will be held in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna, and in other places if it be required and found expedient.

76 The certificates of the University will only be awarded to students who pass this examination, except in the cases otherwise provided for, if under sixteen years of age on the 1st day of January succeeding the examination. Local certificates, prizes, and exhibitions may be gained by all students under seventeen years of age on the last day of the month appointed for the examination.

77. For every candidate fulfilling the conditions of age who shall pass this examination to the satisfaction of the examiners, the manager of the school at which he has received his education will be entitled to claim for each subject in which the candidate passes a grant of five rupees.

78. A book prize will be given to every candidate for each subject in which he passes in honors.

79. Three exhibitions—one of the value of rupees 240 per annum, and two, each of the value of rupees 120 per annum, tenable for three years either at the Royal College or at any registered high school, will be awarded every year to the three best candidates who shall pass this examination.

Senior Local Examination.

80 The senior local examination will be held under the same general conditions as the junior examination, on such day as may be appointed in each year The result payments, prizes and scholarships will be open to candidates who have not completed their 19th year on the last day of the month appointed for the examination

81. For every candidate fulfilling the conditions of age who shall pass this examination to the satisfaction of the examiners, the manager of the school at which he has been educated will be entitled to claim, for each subject in which the candidate passes, a grant of ten rupees.

82. A book prize will be given to every candidate for each subject in which he passes in honors.

83. One scholarship of the value of £150, tenable for four years, will be awarded at these examinations to the student who, having been resident in the Island for the five years next before the

examination, shall pass the best examination in honors. The successful candidate will have to proceed to one of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge or Dublin, or to one of the Scotch Universities, or to such other place of education as shall be approved of by the Governor, and will be required to gain such certificates of good conduct and progress as are usually awarded to meritorious students.

SECTION 2.

Specific Subjects of Secular Instruction.

84. If the time-table of an English school in use throughout the year has provided for one or more specific subjects of secular instruction according to the table in schedule C.—

(*a*) A grant may be made for every such scholar presented in standards VI., VII., VIII., who passes a satisfactory examination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing. The grant for a pass in stage 1 shall be Rs. 2 for each subject; in stage 2, Rs. 4 for each subject; in stage 3, Rs. 6 for each subject.

(*b*) Any scholar who has previously passed in standard VIII. may, if qualified by attendance, be presented in not more than three of such specific subjects besides drawing.

CHAPTER IV.

VERNACULAR LITERATURE IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

85. English schools in which systematic instruction is given in a vernacular language and literature will be allowed to present scholars for vernacular passes in standards VI., VII., and VIII. of the subjects appointed for vernacular schools.

86. No scholar who has failed in the English part of the examination can be presented for a pass in vernacular literature, the value of which will be the same as in vernacular schools.

APPENDIX.

Schedule A.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE REGULATIONS FOR LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

[The Regulations for the Examinations to be held in December, 1885, will be issued to Managers of Grant-in-aid high schools as soon as received.]

Schedule B.

STANDARDS of Examination for English Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.
Standard I.	A few sentences from a First Book (at least 30 pages) distinctly and accurately pronounced.	To form letters, small and capital, on slate or black-board.	Notation to hundred, addition orally of numbers whose sum does not exceed twenty, and subtraction of digits.		
Standard II.	A few sentences from a Second Book slowly and distinctly read.	To copy in manuscript characters a line of print on slate or black-board, and write from dictation a few common words. Copy-writing (single letters in large text) must be shown in this standard.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers containing not more than five figures. Multiplication to 3 times 12.		
Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third Book.	To write from dictation, words and short sentences from the reading book, slowly read and then dictated. Copy-writing in large round text must be shown in this standard.	The four simple rules. Miscellaneous questions.		
Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth Book. To point out nouns, verbs and adjectives in passage read.	To write a connected passage from the reading book, slowly read and then dictated. Copy-writing in small round text must be shown in this standard.	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems.	Definitions. Use of Map of Ceylon.	
Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fifth Book with particular regard to emphasis. Parsing a simple sentence.	To write about eight lines slowly dictated from the reading book. Copy-writing in a running hand must be shown in this standard.	Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing rules, and the use of English money.	General description of figure of the Earth. Europe.	Ceylon.
Standard VI.	The same, from any book containing selections from good English authors. Parsing with analysis of a simple sentence.	To write to dictation from any newspaper or book.	Practice, simple and compound proportion.	General description of the ocean. Europe and Asia.	Outline of English History from 1066 to 1485.
Standard VII.	Reading with fluency and expression from any newspaper or book brought by the Inspector. Parsing and analysis of a short complex sentence.	Writing from memory the substance of a short story read out twice; spelling, handwriting, and grammar to be considered.	Vulgar and decimal fractions.	General description of the earth's surface. British Empire.	Same, from 1485 to 1688
Standard VIII.	The same, with recitation of not less than fifty lines of prose or poetry. Meaning and allusions to be known, and if well-known to atone for deficiency of memory. Parsing and analysis of prose or poetry.	A short theme or letter; the composition, spelling, grammar, and handwriting to be considered.	Interest and discount with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	Physical and political Geography of the World.	Same, from 1688 to 1815

1.—Scholars may not be presented a second time for examination under the same standard, unless they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads. If they fail to pass in more than one of the three first heads they will be considered to have failed altogether, and no result payment can be claimed for them.

2.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector; but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked. Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading-books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used to the department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

3.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

Schedule C.

	1 Mathematics.	2 Latin.	3 Mechanics.	4 Animal Physiology.	5 Botany.	6 Drawing.	7 Chemistry.	Physics. 8 Light and Heat.	Physics. 9 Magnetism, Electricity.
First Stage ...	Algebra: notation, addition, subtraction, Euclid, Book I., propositions 1 to 15, inclusive.	Grammar, to the end of regular verbs.	Elementary knowledge of the different states of matter—solid, liquid, and gaseous—with illustrations of compressibility, elasticity, and resistance. Measures of space, and time, velocity.	The build of the human body; names and positions of the internal organs.	Characters of the root, stem, leaves, and parts of the flower, illustrated by specimens of common flowering plants.	Free-hand drawing from flat examples.	Elementary and compound matter, illustrations of combination and decomposition in such bodies as hydrochloric acid, water, oxide of mercury, and rust of iron.	General notions respecting the formation of shadows and the reflection of light. The formation of images by a looking glass. The three modes in which heat may be conveyed from one place to another. Effects of heat, expansion, melting, boiling, and evaporation.	Attraction, repulsion, and polarity as illustrated by the magnet, terrestrial magnetism and the mariners' compass.
Second Stage...	Algebra, to simple equations (inclusive). Euclid, Book I.	Irregular verbs and first rules of Syntax. Knowledge of Delectus or other first Latin reading book. Translation of simple sentences of English (three or four words) into Latin.	Elementary knowledge of force and of the conservation of energy. The parallelogram of forces. General notions of gravitation.	Circulation and respiration and the broad structure of the organs concerned.	Structure of wood, bark and pith, cells and vessels Food of plants and manner in which a plant grows. Functions of the root, leaves, and different parts of the flower.	Free-hand drawing from models.	Preparation and properties of the common gases, such as oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen, and chlorine. The chemical character and constituents of pure air and pure water, and the nature of the impurities sometimes found in both The air-food of plants.	Refraction of light, appearance of objects under water, separation of white light into its components by a prism explanation of the thermometer. The disappearance of heat in the melting of solids, and the boiling of liquids.	Attraction of light bodies by rubbed sealing wax and glass. Experimental proof that there are two forms of electricity – attraction and repulsion. Gold-leaf electroscope.
Third Stage ...	Algebra, to quadratic equations (inclusive), Euclid, Books I. and II. Elements of Mensuration.	The Latin Grammar. Cæsar de Bello Gallico, Book I. Somewhat longer sentences to be translated from English into Latin	Elementary knowledge of the mechanical powers.	The organs and function of alimentation. The properties of muscle and nerve.	The comparison of a fern and a moss with a flowering plant. The formation of different kinds of fruits. The structure of a bean and of a grain of rice. The phenomena of germination.	Perspective Candidates will be required to show a knowledge of the use of vanishing and measuring points used in horizontal planes; and to represent simple solids or objects on the ground plane in any position.	The properties of carbon as found both in inorganic and organic bodies, with elementary knowledge of the constituents of food. Differences between metallic and non-metallic bodies. Combination by weight and volume. The use of symbols and chemical formulæ.	Rudimentary explanation of the Camera obscura, burning glass, magnifying glass, microscope, and telescope Illustration of the difference of the specific heat of bodies. The causes of cloud, rain, and dew.	Construction of electrophorus, electrical machine, and Leyden jar; construction of a common battery. Explanation of a thunderstorm. Action of a current on the magnet.

Schedule D.

STANDARDS of Examination for Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

		Reading.*	Writing.*	Arithmetic.*	Geography.*	History.*	English Reading.	English Writing.
Primary.	Standard I.	A few sentences from a First Book distinctly and accurately pronounced	To form letters on slate or black-board.	Notation up to 999 Addition up to 20, and subtraction of digits.				
	Standard II.	A few sentences from a Second Book slowly and distinctly read.	To write to dictation short sentences out of the reading book. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than four figures. Multiplication table to 3 times 12.				
	Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third Book.	To write a connected passage from the reading book, containing two or three sentences Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Multiplication and division, with miscellaneous questions in the four rules.				
	Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth Book.	Dictation from reading book Round hand copy-writing.	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems	Definitions and Ceylon.			
	Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading with questions to show comprehension of sentences read (Fourth Book.)	Dictation from reading book. Small hand copy-writing.	Reduction of common weights and measures, and their application to foregoing rules.	Same, with outlines of the World.	...	A few sentences from a First Book containing at least 30 pages, distinctly pronounced and translated into vernacular.	Dictation from reading book—single words.
Middle.	Standard VI.	Good fluent reading with explanation from a classical work in prose.	Writing from memory the substance of a short narrative read out twice. Spelling, hand-writing and grammar to be considered.	Simple and compound proportion Use of English money.	Asia.	...	A few sentences from a second reading book distinctly read and translated into vernacular.	Dictation from reading book, short sentences.
	Standard VII.	The same, with addition of verse.	A short theme or letter.	Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.	Asia & Europe	Ceylon, outlines of principal periods.	Clear and intelligent reading with translation into vernacular.	To write a translation from any vernacular book approved by the Department.
	Standard VIII.	Explanation of passage from a classical work, such as Ummagga-játaka.	An essay in composition.	Interest, simple and compound, and discount, with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	The World.	Ceylon.	The same, advanced proficiency.	Same, advanced proficiency.

1.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector; but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used, to the Department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

2.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

3.—In Anglo-Vernacular Schools passes for Vernacular Grammar of the same value as other passes will be allowed, the subjects for Sinhalese schools being :—*Standard VI.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 29—46, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S. Coles or Mr. Johannes *Standard VII.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 25—54. *Standard VIII.*—The general application of grammatical rules to classical literature In Tamil schools an equivalent will be accepted in any approved grammar.

4.—Under the head of "Reading" the following alternative subjects will be accepted. *Standard VI.*—To read at sight, with comprehension, a passage from a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual or other book or document in correct modern vernacular, selected by the examiners. *Standard VII.*—Good fluent reading at sight, with comprehension, of a fairly-written letter or manuscript in correct modern vernacular. *Standard VIII.*—Reading a letter or document written in ordinary current vernacular handwriting

* Vernacular.

Schedule B.

STANDARDS of Examination for Vernacular Schools.

		Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.
Primary.	Standard I.	A few sentences from a First book distinctly and accurately pronounced.	To form letters on slate or black-board.	Notation up to 999. Addition up to 20, and subtraction of digits.		
	Standard II	A few sentences from a Second reading book slowly and distinctly read.	To write to dictation short sentences out of the reading book. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than four figures. Multiplication table to 3 times 12.		
	Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third book.	To write a connected passage from the reading book containing two or three sentences. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Multiplication and division, with miscellaneous questions in the four rules.		
	Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth book.	Dictation from reading book. Round hand copy-writing.	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems.	Definitions and Ceylon.	
	Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading with questions to show comprehension of sentences read (Fourth book.)	Dictation from reading book. Small hand copy-writing.	Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing rules.	Same, with outlines of the World.	
Middle.	Standard VI.	Good fluent reading, with explanation from a classical work in prose.	Writing from memory the substance of a short narrative read out twice. Spelling, handwriting, and grammar to be considered.	Simple and compound proportion. Use of English money.	Asia.	
	Standard VII.	The same, with addition of verse.	A short theme or letter.	Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.	Asia and Europe.	Ceylon, outlines of principal periods.
	Standard VIII	Explanation of a passage from a classical work, such as Ummagga-jataka.	An essay in composition.	Interest, simple and compound, and discount, with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	The World.	Ceylon.

1.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector: but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked. Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used to the department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

2.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

3.—In Middle Vernacular Schools passes for grammar will be allowed of the same value as other passes, the subjects for Sinhalese schools being:—*Standard VI.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 29-46, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S Coles or Mr. Johannes. *Standard VII.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 25—54, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S. Coles or Mr. Johannes. *Standard VIII.*—The general application of grammatical rules to classical literature. In Tamil schools an equivalent will be accepted in any approved grammar.

4.—Under the head of "Reading" the following alternative subjects will be accepted:—*Standard VI.*—To read at sight, with comprehension, a passage from a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual, or other book or document in correct modern vernacular, selected by the Examiners. *Standard VII.*—Good fluent reading at sight, with comprehension, of a fairly-written letter or manuscript in correct modern vernacular. *Standard VIII.*—Reading a letter or document written in ordinary current vernacular handwriting.

Schedule F.

VALUE of Passes, English Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	TOTAL.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs cts.	Rs. cts.
Standard I. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	4 50
do. II. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	4 50
do. III. ..	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do. IV. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	8 0
do. V. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	10 0
do. VI. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50
do. VII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50
do. VIII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50

In girls' schools a pass in "work" is of the same value as a pass under other heads.

Schedule G.

VALUE of Passes, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar	History.	VERNACULAR.	ANGLO-VERNACULAR.		
							Total.	English Reading.	English Writing.	Total.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs.cts.	Rs.cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs.cts.
Standard I. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	—	4 50	—	—	—
do. II. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	—	4 50	—	—	—
do. III. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	—	6 0	—	—	—
do. IV. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	8 0	—	—	—
do. V. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	8 0	2 0	2 0	12 0
do. VI. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	12 50	2 50	2 50	17 50
do. VII. ..	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	15 0	2 50	2 50	20 0
do. VIII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	15 0	2 50	2 50	20 0

In girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools the value of each pass is double the above sums.
In all girls' schools a pass in "work" will be of the same value as a pass under other heads.
In C. schools the value of a pass is the same as the value of a pass in the corresponding standards of A. schools.

Schedule H.

Form of Certificate from Managers to be forwarded to Director of Public Instruction, on registration of Pupil Teachers.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have this day nominated A. B. as pupil teacher in the school, believing ( ) to be well qualified for the office in respect of health, character, habits and parentage.

I further certify that ( ) passed the standard in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and at the examination of school on day of 18

I am, &c.,
M. N.
Manager.

Registered this day of 18 No.

Director of Public Instruction.

(On the reverse)

PUPIL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.

First Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code.
(Date)

Manager. Inspector.

Second Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code.
(Date)

Manager. Inspector.

Third Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code
(Date)

Manager. Inspector.

Note.—After the third examination this certificate is to be exchanged for a provisional teacher's certificate.

Schedule I.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates required of Pupil Teachers in Grant-in-aid English schools. The conditions of registration are stated in the Code.

	General Subjects of Examination.	Additional Subjects.	School Management.	Certificates of Manager and Inspector.
First year	All subjects assigned to VIth standard	Elementary composition. Map drawing, Ceylon	To give a reading lesson to any class not higher than IVth standard	According to Form.
Second year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIth standard	Same, map drawing, Asia	To give a lesson in reading, writing or arithmetic to any primary class	Same.
Third year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIIth standard	Same, map drawing, World	Increased skill in teaching any primary school in all standards. Written examination on duties of monitors	Same.

Schedule J.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates required of Pupil Teachers in Grant-in-aid Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular schools. The conditions of registration are stated in the Code.

	General Subjects of Examination.	Additional Subjects.	School Management.	Certificates of Manager and Inspector.
First year	All subjects assigned to VIth standard	Elementary composition. Map drawing (outlines of Ceylon and principal towns.)	To give a reading lesson to any class not higher than IVth standard	According to Form
Second year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIth standard	Same, more advanced, Ceylon in detail.	To give a lesson in reading, writing and arithmetic to any primary class	Same.
Third year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIIth standard	Same, more advanced, outlines of geography of the World.	The same, with a lesson in geography. Written examination on all the duties of monitors	Same.

Pupil teachers in Vernacular schools will be examined in the standards of vernacular schools only. Pupil teachers in Anglo-vernacular schools in the standard of Anglo-vernacular schools.

Schedule K.

School 18 .

I hereby certify that has fulfilled the duties required of him with punctuality, diligence, obedience and intelligence, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief his moral character has been uniformly good.

Manager.

Schedule L.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates of Students in Grant-in-Aid Training Schools.

	Certificate.	Reading	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	School Management.
For Admission.	Certificate of Manager.	Reading with fluency and expression from a classical book with grammatical analysis.	An essay in composition.	As for VIIIth Standard.	The World.	Ceylon.	Duties of Monitors.
First year's Examination.	Same.	Same, with advanced proficiency.	Same	Same, more difficult examples.	Distribution of land and water on the earth's surface. advanced proficiency in political geography of the World.	Same, with outlines of the great events of the history of the World.	To give lessons in reading, writing or arithmetic to a VIth standard class. Written papers on school management.
Second year's Examination.	Same.	Same, with advanced proficiency.	Same.	Same.	Advanced proficiency in physical and political geography of the World.	Same, advanced proficiency.	To teach a VIIth standard class. Written papers on school management and method.

NOTE.—Candidates for Anglo-vernacular certificates will be required to pass, for admission, in the English subjects required for the VIIIth standard in Anglo-vernacular schools, and in the subsequent examinations will be required to teach, in the first year, a VIth standard class in English, and, in the second year, a VIIth standard class to the satisfaction of the Inspector

Schedule M.

The names of the children to be examined in each standard must be entered upon a form prepared for the purpose, termed a Report Slip; each Report Slip bearing the following declaration and particulars to be signed by the manager of the school, and handed to the Inspector previously to the examination:—

I hereby certify and declare that all the children whose names are herein entered to be examined for a grant have received not less than nine months' actual instruction in this school during the twelve months immediately preceding the date thereof; and that the conditions laid down with respect to the standard in which they are now offered for examination have been strictly complied with, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no one of them has passed the examination in this or in a higher standard, in this or in any other school.

Number on List.

Average attendance for twelve months preceding the examination.

A. B.
Manager.

SPECIMEN REPORT SLIP.

Number.	Name.	Age.	Date of admission to school. Y	M	Number of attendances since last examination.	Under what standard last examined.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Needlework.

Schedule N.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

Complete High School.

- High School ... Senior Local Examination; Junior Local Examination; Examination in specific subjects, Schedule C
- Middle School.. VIII. Standard; VII. do.; VI. do.
- Primary School V. do.; IV. do.; III. do.; II. do.; I. do.

Complete Middle School.

- Middle School ... VIII. Standard; VII. do.; VI. do.
- Primary School V. do.; IV. do.; III. do.; II. do.; I. do.

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

- High School. ... Classical Sinhalese or Tamil Literature.

Vernacular Middle Schools in which English is taught in standards V., VI., VII., and VIII. are called Anglo-vernacular schools.

NOTE.—The following are the Rules for keeping Registers referred to in clause 20 *(d.)*

The Registers of Admission and Attendance must always be kept in the School during school hours.

ATTENDANCE REGISTERS.

The names of scholars must be entered in the Register of Daily Attendance according to Standards, preserving the same order throughout the year.

An attendance, to fulfil the conditions of the Revised Code, must be an attendance of not less three hours.

In schools which have two sessions, morning and evening, two half attendances of one hour and a-half shall constitute a full attendance.

The registers must be marked immediately after the first lesson of the session, and finally closed (*i.e.*, the column must be filled up with the marks indicating presence or absence, as given below,) at least three hours before the close of each meeting of the school, or at least one hour and a-half before the close of each session in schools which have two daily sessions.

After the registers are closed no child may be marked.

Every child must be marked at each meeting of the school.

In ink, never in pencil inked over afterwards.

Presence must be marked with a long stroke, thus \ or /.

Absence must be marked with an O.

There must be no dots.

No erasures; if any error has been made, it must be corrected in the column for remarks opposite the child's name.

No blanks.

If a child leaves before the expiration of the three hours' attendance (or one hour and a-half in case of two session schools), its mark for presence must be cancelled by another stroke: thus +

Registers must be original and not copied from slates, papers, olas, &c., on pretence of keeping them clean or any other plea.

The number of attendances made by each class or standard must be entered at the foot of the column before the Teacher leaves the school, and the grand total must be entered at the same time.

On the occasion of a holiday, a line should be drawn down the whole length of the column for the day.

At the end of each month the summary (which will be found at the end of this book) must be filled up, showing (1) the number of school-days during the month (or number of sessions in schools holding two daily sessions); (2) the total number of attendances; (3) the average attendance for the month.

NOTE.—The average attendance is shown by dividing the total number of attendances by the number of school-days (or school sessions).

ADMISSION REGISTER.

When a scholar is admitted, his name must be entered at once in the Admission Register, and the necessary information entered in each column.

Should any doubt or difficulty arise with reference to the Standard in which a child admitted from another school was last examined, the Inspector should be informed accordingly.

When a child has been absent for four months, his name should be struck off the roll, and an entry at once made in the Register in the column headed "Date of Withdrawal." If this is regularly done, the number of children in attendance according to the Admission Register will tally with the number given in the Daily Attendance Register. If a scholar whose name has been struck off the Register is re-admitted, his original number should again be assigned to him.

CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS, 1885.

NOTIFICATION.

AMENDED ARTICLES FOR THE CODE OF 1885.

THE following Amended Articles for the Revised Code of 1885 were published for general information in the *Government Gazette* of 17th and 24th October, 1884, and are incorporated in the Code:—

Revised Code, 1884.	*Amendments sanctioned for the Revised Code of* 1885.
31 (*e*). No grant will be allowed for any scholar in Standard I. who is over twelve years of age.	After clause 31 (*e*) insert: 31 (*f*). No scholar shall be eligible for examination unless he shall have been protected from small-pox by having previously had that disease or by vaccination.
38. After the first day of January, 1884, no new boys' school will be accepted as a grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular, or vernacular A. school, unless the principal teacher holds a certificate or license from the Department.	No new boys' school will hereafter be accepted as a grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular or vernacular A. school, unless the principal teacher holds a certificate or license from the Department, provided that in the case of vernacular schools desired to be established in backward districts special circumstances may be submitted to the Department.
48. Up to the 1st day of January, 1885, certificates will be issued:— (*a*) Of the third class to any teacher who has been for three years in continuous charge of the same school or of different schools under the same management, and has presented scholars for examination at each annual inspection, and has earned result payments on not less than 50 per cent. of passes, on the certificate of the Manager to his ability and industry. (*b*) Of the second class to any teacher who has earned result payments, under the same conditions as above, in the VIIIth standard for three consecutive years immediately preceding the date of application for the certificate	Substitute "1st January, 1886," for "1st January, 1885."
50. After the first day of January, 1884, no principal teacher shall be appointed to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school in receipt of grant, unless he holds a certificate or license of the Department.	After the first day of January, 1886, no principal teacher shall be appointed to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular boys' school in receipt of a grant, unless he holds a certificate or license of the Department.
51. After the 1st day of January, 1888, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the Department.	Insert the word "boys'" before "school."

Revised Code, 1884.

Schedule F.

VALUE of Passes, English Schools.

		Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	TOTAL.
		Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Standard	I. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do.	II. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do.	III. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	—	7 50
do.	IV. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	10 0
do.	V. ...	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	15 0
do.	VI. ...	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	15 0
do.	VII. ...	3 50	3 50	3 50	3 50	3 50	17 50
do.	VIII. ...	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	20 0

In girls' schools a pass in "work" is of the same value as a pass under other heads.

Amendments sanctioned for the Revised Code of 1885.

Schedule F.

VALUE of Passes, English Schools.

		Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	TOTAL.
		Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Standard	I. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	4 50
do.	II. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	4 50
do.	III. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do.	IV. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	8 0
do.	V. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	10 0
do.	VI. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50
do.	VII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50
do.	VIII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	12 50

In girls' schools a pass in "work" is of the same value as a pass under other heads.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 24th October, 1884.

H. W. GREEN,
Director.

APPENDIX II.

INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTORS AS PUBLISHED IN THE *GOVERNMENT GAZETTE* OF 7TH AND 14TH NOVEMBER, 1884.

Circular to Inspectors.—No. 13.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that, being much impressed with the bad English taught in certain English schools under native teachers, I addressed the Government on the subject, proposing that no English school should, after a certain period, be accepted for a grant-in-aid, unless the principal teacher held a certificate of competency to teach English.

2. The Government, however, has decided that until the consent of the Managers of schools to the compulsory employment of certificated teachers has been more clearly ascertained, it is desirable not to enforce a system of certificates, and that the present system of judging only by results should be maintained; but it is added: "The examination of the schools should be carefully conducted, and the standards prescribed strictly enforced, and if the result be, as may be anticipated, to diminish the grants earned, the Managers will then doubtless consult their own interest by employing a better class of teachers than they generally do at present."

3. It is therefore to be understood by you that, in the *viva voce* portions of examinations of English schools, you will adhere strictly to the standards laid down, and that a weak English school in a small town or village is not to be any more leniently examined than an efficient High school in a central town.

4 As regards paper work, in standards above the 5th, the examination should be conducted as far as possible on paper, and, in order to secure uniformity of examination throughout the Island, complete sets of questions will be prepared in this office, and transmitted to you every month.

You will therefore be good enough to send in to me at once a special list showing the dates of examination of each of the Grant-in-aid English schools in your district during next year, so that the papers above referred to may be prepared by me in time.

I am, &c.,

H. W. GREEN,
Director.

Circular to Inspectors.—No. 14.

SIR,—A CASE has been brought to my notice where some boys who had previously been examined in the 1st and 2nd standards of Arithmetic and Geography in a Vernacular school, were again presented in the same subjects and in the same standards in the English school.

2. It is against the whole spirit of clause 31 *c* of the Revised Code that a child should earn a grant twice in the same standard and in the same subject.

3. In the case in point it was urged that these subjects being taught in different languages were different subjects, but Arithmetic and Geography are the same subjects in whatever language taught, and no marks are awarded for proficiency in the language in these subjects, but correctly worked Arithmetic, and correct answers to Geographical questions, are all that is required. The knowledge of a language is tested and marked for under other heads.

4. You will therefore be so good as to see that no child is examined twice in the subjects of Arithmetic and Geography in the same standards by reason of a transfer from a Vernacular to an English school, or from an English to a Vernacular school.

I am, &c.,

H. W GREEN,
Director.

VIII.—1884.

CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorized to be raised by the Government of Ceylon, and to provide for the creation of Ceylon Inscribed Stock."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 29th October, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorized to be raised by the Government of Ceylon, and to provide for the creation of Ceylon Inscribed Stock."

The Hon. F. Fleming, Attorney-General.

The Hon. W. D. Wright, Treasurer.

The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, }
The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet, } Unofficial Members.

CEYLON INSCRIBED STOCK BILL.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider the Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to declare the terms and conditions applicable to Loans authorized to be raised by the Government of Ceylon, and to provide for the creation of Ceylon Inscribed Stock" have the honour to report as follows:—

That as regards loans to be raised in England, they are agreed that no amendment of the Draft Ordinance is required. But they are divided in opinion as to the principle of the Ordinance which requires that all loans must be raised in England.

F. FLEMING.
W. D. WRIGHT.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 5th November, 1884.

IX.—1884.

PAPERS

ON THE SUBJECT OF

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN CEYLON.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

No. 1.

A LETTER TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR ON PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN CEYLON.

To the Hon. Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon, G.C.M.G., Governor of Ceylon.

Sir,—I trust that it will not be considered presumptuous on my part to address Your Excellency on this, one of the most important subjects that can occupy the attention of the Government of any country. This letter expresses my individual opinions only, given after several years of varied educational experience in the Colony, and a careful study of systems practised in this and other countries.

The only value that I claim for the letter is that it may suggest enquiries to Your Excellency and evoke criticism from experienced educationists, which may lead to a public recognition of some of the defects of the present system of public instruction in Ceylon, with an indication of the remedies required.

The publication of the "Report of the Indian Education Commission" seems to me to furnish an opportunity of which the educational authorities of Ceylon ought not to be slow in availing themselves.

Considering how closely Ceylon is allied by race and language to the continent of India, it is not difficult to understand how similar in many respects the educational requirements of Ceylon may be to those of a great part of India. It may, therefore, be of the greatest service to utilize for the benefit of public instruction in this country the results of the investigations and experience of the distinguished educationists who formed the Indian Commission, as embodied in their report.

It will be unnecessary for me to dwell at any length upon the history of education in Ceylon, especially on what may be termed its ancient history. But few of the Singhalese Kings seem to have appreciated its importance, and those who did shewed their appreciation in endowments of the priesthood for educational purposes, and strengthening a system represented by the pansalas of the present day.

That system corresponded to, and was doubtless borrowed from, the system in vogue under native rule in India before the establishment of the British Empire. It was the "flat-world" education so severely censured in Macaulay's famous minute. The failure of the pansala system in Ceylon is notorious.

The influence of education under the Portuguese and Dutch rules, respectively, may be traced in a study of the words incorporated from those languages into Singhalese, in the prevalence of the Portuguese element, and the comparative disuse of the Dutch.

The advent of the British Government introduced a new educational life into the country; but for many years the amount of public money spent on schools was exceedingly small, and the population benefited by it exceedingly limited. The appointment of a Central School Board, to advise the Government in the distribution of the grant and the direction of public instruction, was unquestionably an improvement on the comparatively systemless state of affairs which had preceded it.

In the last ten years of its life the number of children brought under education was nearly doubled, and, so far as one may judge from statistics, primary education met with every encouragement that it was in the power of the Commission to give. The limited restrictions put on that power by the Government of the day seem to have hastened its dissolution. One valuable feature in the Commission was, that besides Civil Servants of experience, it had on its board the heads of the leading Missionary organizations, thus securing a full representation of the educational agencies a want which has been occasionally severely felt since the Commission was dissolved.

In 1869 the Central School Commission was superseded by the appointment of a Director of Public Instruction, to preside over a regular Department of Government; and at about the same time, the establishment of a system of payment by results inaugurated a new era in the educational annals of Ceylon.

In many respects, nothing could be better than that system. The scheme has been worked with immense advantage to the people and a vast increase of the area brought under the influence of public instruction. Any scheme, however, which confines itself entirely to a distribution of the educational grant in payments by results will, of necessity, be liable to the following defects: (1.) It will, unless checked by other provisions in the Code, encourage such an intense and absorbing competition, in regard to studies which can be reduced to an examination schedule, as to lead to the neglect of other studies of quite as great importance, which cannot be so tabulated. In other and plainer words, it may easily degenerate, unless some special remedy is provided, into

a prevalence of "cram." This was guarded against in the English Code, from which our system was largely copied, by an arrangement for special grants for buildings and furniture, dependent on the general efficiency of the school and the Inspector's reports on results which could not be represented by numbers in a column of the schedule. I need scarcely point out how much greater a necessity there is in this country, in its present state of civilization, for such a check on the tendency to "cramming," and for a liberal encouragement of those very important branches of educational work which cannot be expressed by numbers in the reports. (2) Another defect to which it is liable is a *want of elasticity*. Standards which may suit one class of the population may be utterly unsuited for another, not only in the choice of subjects, but also in the proficiency required. A system of simple payments by results will not lend itself readily to an adaptation to the variety of requirements by a population so various as that which is made up from the different races and widely-varying differences of condition to be found in Ceylon.

This scheme lived for ten years without any considerable modification of the principle on which it started.

The Directors, who were chiefly gentlemen who had qualified themselves, by long experience in the Civil Service, in a practical knowledge of what the people required, administered it fairly and liberally, on the whole, to the encouragement of the educational bodies and the rapid spread of educational work.

In 1879 Mr. Bruce was transferred from the Education Department of the Mauritius to the Directorship of Public Instruction in Ceylon. It was under his administration of the Department that the present Code was introduced. May I be permitted to ask Your Excellency's attention to a consideration of the question as to how far the working of the system based on the present Code satisfies the educational requirements of Ceylon, and also to a consideration of additions which the writer thinks might be made with benefit to the educational work of the Colony?

I.—Primary Education.

The recent Indian Commission was directed by the Indian Government to pay special attention to the needs of primary education. A great part of the report is therefore devoted to that most important subject, but as the report itself is too bulky to be dealt with in a letter like this, I shall confine myself to a consideration of such of the recommendations as are applicable to the educational work of this country.

1.—"*That Primary Education be regarded as the instruction of the masses through the vernac-*
"*ular in such subjects as will best fit them for their position in life, and be not necessarily regarded*
"*as a portion of instruction leading up to the University.*"

This definition of the true sphere of primary education will of course apply to the work of public instruction in any country. But in Ceylon loud fears have from time to time been expressed with regard to the tendency of the education imparted to the masses of the people. The question has been asked again and again,—Are they receiving instruction in such subjects as will best fit them for their position in life? And the results of our system have frequently been such as to encourage such doubts. The disgust of our educated youths with all forms of manual labour and their anxiety to sever all connection with the vocations followed by their parents (of the humbler classes) are matters of painful notoriety.

If this crying evil is to be remedied at all, it must be remedied in primary education and in the direction indicated by the Indian Commissioners, viz, the instruction of the masses through the vernacular in such subjects "as will best fit them for their position in life."

The Commission points out in recommendation 9 under this head what the character of such primary education should be. "*That the standards of primary examination in each Province*
"*be revised with a view to simplification, and to the larger introduction of practical subjects, such as*
"*native methods of Arithmetic, Accounts and Mensuration, the Elements of Natural and Physical*
"*Science, and their application to agriculture, health, and the industrial arts; but that no attempt be*
"*made to secure general uniformity throughout India.*"

In the Ceylon Code primary schools are thus defined (clauses 24 and 26): "Vernacular primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented for a grant above standard five;" "English primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented above the fifth standard." The following are the subjects which form the fifth standard of examination in Vernacular schools.

"1. *Reading*—Good and intelligent reading with questions to shew comprehension of sentences "read (Fourth Book.)

"2. *Writing.*—Dictation from reading book. Small-hand copy writing.

"3. *Arithmetic.*—Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing "rules.

"4. *Geography.*—Same as in fourth standard, viz., definitions and Ceylon, with outlines of the "World.

In English primary schools the fifth standard is made up of the following:—

"1. *Reading.*—Good and intelligent reading from a fifth book with particular regard to emphasis, "parsing, and simple sentences

"2. *Writing.*—To write about eight lines slowly dictated from the reading book. Copy writing in "a running hand must be shewn in this standard.

"3. *Arithmetic.*—Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing "rules; the use of English money.

"4. *Geography.*—General description of the figure of the earth. Europe.

"5. *History.*—Ceylon.

No fault can be found with the subjects selected, except that standard fifth is probably above the range of ordinary studies which the Indian Commissioners would recommend for primary schools. And it might tend to greater simplification, and would also give a wider range for middle and high schools, if the primary division stopped with the inclusion of the fourth standard. But it will be observed that there is no provision made for "the larger introduction of practical subjects." When a boy from the agricultural class, from which the majority of such scholars come, has graduated through the primary school, and passed his fifth standard examination, what has he learnt to specially fit him for his position in life? And what a vast field of knowledge, that would be of the greatest service in the department of labour to which his parents belong, has been left altogether untouched! Studies of the greatest utility that might be made, under a different system, as easy as anything taught in the school, and much more interesting than the ordinary subjects because of their personal and local application, have been altogether neglected.

I would propose to remedy this state of affairs by the introduction of "*class subjects*" corresponding to the "class subjects" of the English Code. The addition of "specific subjects" to the 6th, 7th, and 8th standards was a step in this direction. But it will be evident at a glance that it does not go far enough when confined, as it now is, to "high schools." The class most requiring education in some of the most practical of the "specific subjects" is scarcely reached by it.

The teaching of such subjects need not of necessity be "high." A quotation from a little book published at the Wesleyan Mission Press in 1879 will explain what I mean:—

"In conclusion, let me ask the teachers in our elementary schools to give such subjects as these "a trial, to be no longer satisfied to remain in ignorance of the causes of things, and to be determined that "the responsibility of preventing the pupils, committed to your charge, from obtaining a knowledge so "immensely important, shall not lie with you. You owe it to yourselves, to the minds which you are help-"ing to form, and to the parents of the boys, that they should not grow up in ignorance of the great truths "which are so closely connected with their daily life.

"I have said already that the remedy lies in your own hands. This knowledge of common things "will never be spread over the country by giving a scientific education to a few well-to-do boys in the "higher classes of one or two leading educational institutions in the chief towns. That is something, but "much more than that is needed to leaven the country with such knowledge.

"That would go but a very short way towards accomplishing the purpose. The elementary school "teacher must make it his work to teach it to his classes in forms adapted to their comprehension, in order "that the teaching may reach the great working classes, by whom it is especially needed and not be con-"fined to a select few. I have tried to show in the preceding pages that science-teaching, from this "practical point of view, is not so formidable a thing as some would have us believe. The term science-"teaching covers a very great deal of ground. You may not be able to teach the higher branches, but "there ought not to be a recognized teacher in any of our schools who is not capable of giving some "instruction in the simple elements, and so laying the foundation for a substantial knowledge of science."*

Object lessons might be more generally brought into use. The report of the Director of Public Instruction does not tell us how many primary schools in Ceylon make provision for the teaching of object lessons, but I suspect that they would be found to be very few indeed.

When speaking of the necessity for something of this sort to the managers and teachers of the Mission with which I have the honor to be connected, I have been met with the suggestion of the difficulty and expense of obtaining the models from England. I believe that difficulty would soon vanish with the slightest encouragement from Government. Object lessons of the class required for our elementary schools are not necessarily expensive. A variety of things that would serve might be picked up any day in the neighbourhood of the school with no greater expense than the collection of specimens for the Botany class in the high school. With just a little ingenuity and the aid of the village carpenter, a number of useful models might be made. And it will hardly be necessary to point out how easily in our village schools the sanded floor and the "pointer" might be made to assist the "object lesson." Where it can be afforded, too, an interesting and very useful aid will be found in toys both of English and native make.

In this connection I should like to say what has been long on my mind, that the absence —or comparative absence—of picture-teaching in Ceylon schools exhibits a lack of what is regarded in all civilized countries as one of the most important features of primary education.

Can it be wondered at if this "instruction by the eye" is so completely neglected—as it is in the vast majority of our schools—that a boy of the class to which I have referred should have spent his time mainly in cramming, and graduate without an education best fitted for his position in life.

In the Mundella Code the need for the larger introduction of practical subjects is met in upper divisions by a provision for "specific subjects" as extra to standard V. and upwards, and in lower divisions by a similar provision for "class subjects" as extra to each of the lower standards.

The Code (Mundella) says, clause 19:—"Two class subjects may be taken up in each "division." Clause 20:—"English (grammar and recitation), geography (including physical "geography), and elementary science will alone be recognized as class subjects in the lower "division."

No system of primary education can be considered complete—must be indeed very far from complete—which makes no provision for something in the nature of object lessons for infant schools—and for infants of larger growth, in a country like this—and which does not provide for instruction, throughout the primary division, of the practical kind indicated in the Mundella Code and in the recommendations of the Indian Commission.

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* Lectures to Teachers on Science-teaching in Elementary Schools.

The question of the books necessary is one of some difficulty. But if chapters can be found here and there in the Vernacular Readers, as they may be found in the excellent series published by the Christian Vernacular Education Society, bearing on a knowledge of common things or elementary science, simplified and adapted to the capacities of the lowest classes, I think it will not be found difficult to secure the production of little class books, dealing altogether, with a local adaptation, with the practical knowledge required. It would be of very valuable service in this direction if the Director of Public Instruction could see his way clear to making a provision for the use of his Agricultural Primer, in which the principles of agriculture are fully, clearly, and simply stated, in primary and middle as well as in high schools. It should, however, be understood in any such arrangement for "class subjects" that no additional burden be imposed on managers who find it as much as they can do to satisfy the present demands of the Code. But, as in English schools, such subjects might be made optional with certain subjects now included in the ordinary standard work.

The Indian Commission also recommends in the clause which we have been considering, "that no attempt be made to secure general uniformity throughout India." The need of such a caution will be evident when the diversity of material in such a vast country as India is taken into consideration. In Ceylon the area is comparatively small, but the diversity of condition is great. That is to my mind one of the defects of our educational system, viz., its want of adaptation to the varying circumstances of the people. A Code which may be admirably adapted for the comparative civilization of our large towns, may be utterly unsuited to the large uncivilized tracts of country in the interior. A provision, evidently with the intention of remedying this defect, was originally inserted in the Code when first proposed by Mr. Bruce, allowing a larger grant on a standard of education more in keeping with the capabilities of the people living in "outlying, sparsely-populated, and neglected districts." The schools to be registered under this provision were to be called *C.* schools. The clause (32) containing this provision has been so modified, that as it stands now it differs in little but limit of attendance from that which contains the requirements for A. schools, thus securing as far as it can that "general uniformity" which comes under the ban of the Indian Commissioners. That this policy has proved greatly to the detriment of primary education in the interior of the Island will, I think, be evident to any one who will take the trouble to study the reports from the Central, North-Central, and North-Western Provinces, and compare them with the Census returns. But I wish to reserve my remarks on that head for what I shall have to say further on the subject of the provincial distribution of education in Ceylon.

The Indian Commissioners are so deeply impressed with the need of an elastic system which shall adapt itself to the varied necessities of the different sorts and conditions of men to be found in the Empire, that they refer to it again and again in the course of the "Recommendations."

"4.—*That an attempt be made to secure the fullest possible provision for, and extension of, primary education by legislation suited to the circumstances of each province.*"

Again in Recommendation 7:—"*That as a general rule, aid to primary schools be regulated "to a large extent according to the results of examination; but an exception may be made in the case "of schools established in backward districts, or under peculiar circumstances, which may be aided "under special rules.*"

"23—*That as much elasticity as possible be permitted both as regards the hours of the day "and the seasons of the year during which attendance of scholars is required, especially in agricultural "villages and backward districts.*

"24—*That primary education be extended in backward districts, especially in those inhabited "mainly by aboriginal races by the instrumentality of Government pending the creation of School "Boards, or by specially liberal grants-in-aid to those who are willing to set up and maintain such "schools.*"

I have selected the above from the recommendations of the Indian Commission as bearing directly on the educational requirements of Ceylon, and as having a force of application here almost, if not entirely, equal to what they would have in India.

The "backward districts" of Ceylon, which cover an immense area, will never receive their due attention in regard to primary education until the Code is made less rigid and uniform, with a more liberal application to the wants of such districts.

In concluding my remarks on this branch of Public Instruction, may I be permitted to invite Your Excellency's attention to the important recommendation:—

"3. *That while every branch of education can justly claim the fostering care of the State, it is desirable in the present circumstances of the country to declare the elementary education of the "masses, its provision, extension, and improvement, to be that part of the educational system to which "the strenuous efforts of the State should now be directed in a still larger measure than heretofore.*"

II.—Middle and High Schools.

Under this head I wish to consider the recommendations on "Secondary and Collegiate Education," in so far as they are capable of application to the wants of Ceylon. It must be admitted that much of what is recommended under these heads is already being carried out in the educational system of this country. There can be no doubt that the effect of the working of the present Code has been to give a great impulse to middle and higher education without any great additional expense to the Government.

Recommendations on Secondary Education :—

"*That in the upper classes of high schools there be two divisions : one leading to the Entrance "Examination of the Universities ; the other of a more practical character, intended to fit youths for "commercial or other non-literary pursuits*"

This would correspond to the *classical* and *modern* sides of English public schools. Such a division, if generally followed and provided for in the Code, would undoubtedly be of the greatest benefit to the country. In one of our Colombo Colleges it was tried for two or three years by a manager who wished to introduce a larger number of subjects "of a more practical "character." He found that it resulted in an unfavourable comparison of the University results with those gained by other institutions in which the studies were more on the "classical side." He had to bend to circumstances, and reluctantly give up his "modern side" with its practical adaptation to local requirements, for a greater devotion to the classics of Ancient Greece and Rome. The value to this country of the classical education given in our schools would be an interesting question for a Ceylon Education Commission to consider.

"4.—*That a small annual grant be made for the formation and maintenance of libraries "in all high schools.*"

Under proper control and direction, no part of the educational grant will be better spent than money devoted in this way to the help of that larger education which lies outside the curriculum of the school. One of the greatest preventives of the vice of cramming lies in the encouragement of the reading of good books. It ought surely to be considered an important part of public instruction to create and foster a taste for reading, and to guide the inclinations so formed into right channels.

"5.—*That the grant-in-aid Code of each Province include provision for giving help to school "managers in the removal, and, if necessary, the increase, of their furniture and apparatus of "instruction, after stated intervals.*"

It will perhaps be said that in Ceylon all this is provided for in the results payments. I am afraid that one of the weakest points in our grant-in-aid schools is shown in the prevailing lack of good furniture and apparatus Managers find that the grants are not liberal enough to cover what the Government might fairly be expected to provide under this head. And as a consequence, they—some to my personal knowledge -have been compelled to do with very inferior furniture and apparatus, and in some instances have only been able to provide barely sufficient for teaching purposes.

It will not be necessary for me to point out how damaging this must prove to the educational interests of the country. I know of no other instance where a Government professing to educate its people makes so little provision for this very important aid to educational work.

"10.—*That in order to encourage the establishment of aided schools, the managers be not "required to charge fees as high as those of a neighbouring Government school of the same class.*"

This follows a clause recommending "*That the Director of Public Instruction, in "consultation with the managers of schools receiving aid from Government, determine the scale of "fees to be charged and the proportion of pupils to be exempted from payment thereon.*"

I have no idea of what the general body of Ceylon managers would say to such an arrangement, but it is my private opinion that the introduction into the Code of an adaptation of both these clauses would be of great benefit to aided schools, and to the educational work generally. The managers would then be supported by the authority of the Government for the fees enforced and for the limitations put on the number of free scholars. I know of some managers who would find it of great service to be able to plead the authority of Government in enforcing the payment of fees.

It is no uncommon complaint that education of the class now under consideration has been made far too cheap in Ceylon. It may be added, too, that the same complaint has been made in many places in regard to primary education The fee-payments in grant schools have been in most instances regulated according to the payments in Government schools. In high schools the fees have frequently been at a much higher rate than that demanded in Government schools of the same class. The Public Instruction Department has, of late, shown every disposition to encourage aided schools in the direction indicated in recommendation No. 10. There still, however, remains much to be done.

The Manager of the Richmond College, Galle, at the last prize distribution, complained that he could not secure the fees necessary to the payment of the teachers during the holidays, because of the rule followed in Government schools of the same class, where no fees are paid during holiday months, although teachers' salaries must be paid all the same. The entire question of fee-payments needs renewed and most careful consideration, especially in the present state of the public funds.

It is not necessary for me to dwell on the points in which the educational policy of the Ceylon Government coincides with that recommended by the Indian Commission. I may mention, however, that recent legislation in this country practically sanctions the principle laid down in the following important clause :—

"23.—*That it be distinctly laid down that the relation of the State to secondary is different from its relation to primary education, in that the means of primary education may be provided without regard to the existence of local co-operation, while it is ordinarily expedient to provide the means of secondary education only where adequate local co-operation is forthcoming, and that, therefore, in all ordinary cases secondary schools for instruction in English be hereafter established by the State preferably on the footing of the system of grant-in-aid.*"

That this may be accomplished with great saving to the Government funds and with no decrease in efficiency, is evident from the result of changes made in this direction in Kandy.

In the Reports for 1880, the year in which the Government schools were closed, and 1882, the following are the numbers of scholars given as under instruction in English, with the Government expenditure in each year:—

	1880.		1882	
	No.	Government Expenditure. Rs. cts.	No.	Government Expenditure. Rs. cts.
Boys	291	3,923 3	376	1,620 50
Girls	36	4,454 87	98	643 0
Total ...	327	8,377 90	474	2,263 50

It will thus be seen that, in one place at least, this policy has resulted in a large saving to Government (more than Rs. 6,000 a year) with no decrease in the numbers taught, but, on the contrary, a very substantial increase.

If this policy is to be general in regard to English teaching in towns, managers may fairly ask for some additional grant to help to meet the expenses incurred in the erection or rent of schoolrooms and purchase of furniture, if not for a more liberal treatment in the matter of result payments. The burden of the expenditure on the English education of such towns will rest in a very unequal proportion with the missionary societies, some of which are but ill able to bear it.

11.—Recommendations on Collegiate education:—"*That no college, Government or aided, be "allowed to receive more than a certain proportion of free students; the proportion to be fixed by "the Department, in communication, where necessary, with the managers.*"

Managers in Ceylon might find such a rule of great service.

"17.—*That the Local Governments be invited to consider the advisability of establishing "scholarships for distinguished graduates to enable them to proceed to Europe for the purpose of "practically studying some branch of mechanical industry.*"

The only scholarship in Ceylon which provides for a visit to Europe is that known as the "University Scholarship," confined until recently to the Royal College, now open to all the high schools. It is no doubt, of great value to secure to the country men educated in European Universities. But is it not a question, whether the money laid out in that way is spent with so much advantage to the country and to the holders themselves, as it would be if spent on scholarships like those suggested in the Recommendations of the Commission?

I cannot help thinking that some of the provisions in our Educational Code for higher education in colleges are wanting in definiteness and appropriateness.

Those provisions, as far as the Code is concerned, and therefore as far as Government influence and control are concerned, are confined to schedule C, which arranges for the study of "specific subjects," and defines the arrangements made by the Department for the London University and the Cambridge Local Examinations.

The "specific subject" schedule is an undoubted advance on the old state of affairs, and a wider latitude in the selection of subjects with a liberal grant would leave but little to be desired. By this I do not mean to imply that the schedule does not, as it stands at present, contain a good variety of subjects, but the restrictions put on the number to be selected are much too limiting for the work of high schools.

Clause 81 of the Ceylon Code says, with reference to specific subjects: (*a*) "A grant may "be made for every such scholar presented in standards 6, 7, 8, who passes a satisfactory exam-"ination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing." The specific subjects mentioned in schedule C. are the following:—(1) Mathematics, (2) Latin, (3) Mechanics, (4) Animal Physiology, (5) Botany, (6) Drawing, (7) Chemistry, (8) Light and Heat, (9) Magnetism and Electricity.

It may not at all be convenient for drawing to be selected. It must frequently happen in our Ceylon schools that a good drawing teacher will not be available. The college or high school is then limited to two subjects. In every such institution Latin and Mathematics will form a part of the ordinary curriculum, and managers will naturally select the two subjects to which the schools will devote most time and with which the teachers themselves will probably be more familiar. And thus the study of Natural and Physical Science, for the encouragement of which the schedule was mainly intended, will be as much neglected as ever.

The proposed division of Mathematics into two subjects, Algebra and Euclid, will not tend to improve matters, if the same restrictions are allowed to remain.

Nor is the reduction of the grant on first presentations a remedy. The presentable scholars will still be kept as far as possible to "Latin and Mathematics" when it is found that "it will not pay" to begin a new science subject. The true remedy is to widen the limits of selection. The number of subjects allowed should not be at all less than four, and in view of the saving to Government which will be effected by throwing the higher education on grant-in-aid institutions, there should be no difficulty in putting a higher money value on passes in these subjects. I think it will be admitted that the portion of the grant actually spent on superior education in grant-in-aid schools is exceedingly small, and out of all proportion smaller than the Government expenditure on similar education in Government schools. It can hardly be imagined that the European missionary societies will be willing to undertake the great burden of the higher secular education of this Colony without a comparatively liberal compensation from the Government. The provision under the head of "specific subjects," as it stands at present, is not a liberal one.

Bishop Bonjean, a distinguished and experienced Ceylon educationist, in a letter to the Director of Public Instruction, says :

"Any how, managers of aided schools in Ceylon have no reason to congratulate themselves, as a "rule, upon the results of the amendments introduced of late into the Code, the effect, as the tendency of "which, having been to cut down the amount of Government assistance to be looked for in each particular "case."

"Take, as an instance in point, the amendments made last year of the section under notice, "(section 2, chapter 3,) by which the value of a pass in the first stage of specific subjects was reduced from "Rs. 4 to Rs. 2. Although the value of a pass in the third stage was simultaneously raised from Rs. 4 to "Rs. 6, a loss was inevitable, seeing that the largest number of passes obtained in specific subjects belong "to the first stage. The specific pretext of discountenancing half-learning was adduced in behalf of this "measure, but the object could have been obtained just as well by raising the rates of the passes in all the "three stages thus : 1st stage Rs. 4, 2nd Rs. 6, 3rd Rs 8. The rates of passes in aided schools in Ceylon "stand conspicuously lower than those obtainable in India, Burmah, the Straits, and even such a small "settlement as Hong Kong, and I am of opinion that the past and present services rendered by the "managers of aided schools in this Colony are very much under-rated, and are very inadequately "rewarded"—[Letter of Bishop Bonjean to Director of Public Instruction, *Catholic Messenger*, July 8th, 1884.]

In the Mundella Code, the "Principles of Agriculture" and "Domestic Economy" are classed among the "specific subjects." I think they might be included in schedule C. of our Code with great advantage, the latter having special reference to girls, for whom the selection of subjects from those given in the schedule is often a matter of difficulty. Such additions will be of little use, however, while such restrictions remain on the schedule. Should a provision be made for "class subjects," some of the subjects that are now "specific" might very well be taken under that head

Besides this application of the system of payments by results, the Department is said to "grant assistance for the encouragement of superior instruction in the form of "*Public Examination*" and "*Scholarships and Exhibitions.*" It will be evident at once that this must be an important feature in a scheme for higher education. It will also be evident that the whole course of higher education will be influenced in the direction of these examinations. And not only superior education, but, indirectly and very powerfully, elementary education will be influenced by them. The character of the examinations then, and their bearing on the educational necessities of Ceylon, must, therefore, become to all interested in the welfare of the country matters of very great importance.

The University examinations for which our Ceylon youth are being prepared are those of Cambridge (Local), London, Calcutta, and Madras. The question which will at once arise in the mind on seeing the above names in connection, is :—How can the examination of such foreign Universities be adapted to the requirements of Ceylon ?

The English University examinations are, of course, prepared for a totally different class of candidates in totally different conditions from those existing in Ceylon. They tend to a total separation of the scholarly youth of the country from vernacular classics in favour of the classics of Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece. The physical science references are to examples to be found commonly in the British Isles and rarely to be found in Ceylon ; and if adapted to Ceylon, they would probably be very inappropriate for other colonies where the examinations are held. As an example, I may quote from a communication from Mr. Dixon, the Science Master of the Royal College, in the Report of Public Instruction, 1880 :

"With regard to the Botanical part of the Cambridge Local Examination, Ceylon students are "placed at a considerable disadvantage compared with those in England. I would suggest that applica- "tion be made to the Cambridge Syndicate to arrange that plants of tropical, well-known orders of equal "structural value be substituted for those given in England, and that answers to general questions, such as "those referring to useful timber trees, useful vegetables and other plants of economic use, &c, be "recognized, if correctly given for Ceylon, as of equal value with English answers. As an illustration of "the difficulty under which a candidate here labours, take the question No. 4 in the recent examination for "Juniors :—

"Question 4.—Compare the daisy with the dandelion.
"Compare the rose with the butter cup.
* * *

"In the examination for the Seniors, the question occurs :—"Describe a fir-cone" This is an easy matter for an English boy, but not so for a Ceylon youth."

This holds good not only with regard to Botany but also with regard to other branches of Natural Science. An examination destitute of all local references is neither calculated to develope or test an intelligent acquaintance with the subject, and if that local adaptation be for Great Britain then it will seldom be fitted for Ceylon

It will also be easily seen that a system of higher education can have very little unity in it which presents candidates *for four different foreign universities.*

It may be said that this deplorable diversity is unnecessary ; that the Department encourages the Cambridge Local ; that it is the wilful perversity of managers of some grant-in-aid high schools which makes them prefer the Indian University examinations to those of the Cambridge Local.

But these managers say, with truth, that the Indian Universities, though foreign, are not so foreign to Ceylon as those of England. In one case, that of Madras, there is a provision for examination in one of the vernaculars of the Island. And the advantage of local adaptation outweighs the advantage of the encouragements offered by the Department in the small amount of Government expenditure on scholarships and exhibitions in connection with the Cambridge Local Examinations.

There are other serious difficulties besetting University education in Ceylon. One of these is the difficulty of taking a degree. Candidates for the B. A. degree must proceed to Madras or Calcutta in order to graduate. This entails an expense which the majority of Ceylon candidates can ill afford to bear.

For these and other reasons, it seems to me that the necessity for the establishment of a Ceylon University must be obvious. That necessity was never felt to a greater extent than it is to-day. The cost of the upkeep of such an Examining Board (for it would be nothing more) would be comparatively little, while the local advantages would be immense.

A Ceylon University would bring with it the following among other advantages :—

1. Unity of higher education.

2. A higher education adapted to the requirements of the Colony, rather than one adapted to the requirements of England.

3. It might be made the means of correcting the various defects in our present system, especially the neglect of practical and technical studies. Our present connection with foreign Universities will never be sufficient for this.

4. It would give us in the University Senate a representative body of officials and unofficials whose counsels might be of the greatest value to the Government in this important Department of Administration

5. While it would have in its power the ability to prevent degrees from becoming too cheap, it would also obviate the difficulty, so severely felt at present, of taking degrees owing to the expense of proceeding to Calcutta or Madras.

6. It would be of the greatest service in the encouragement of Vernacular education.

There are objections to a University scheme for Ceylon, but I think they are objections which could be easily met. There is (1) the objection of the expenditure of the undertaking in times like these.

In replying to that, it must be remembered that the expenses of the examiners would be largely met by the fees of the candidates. As in Madras, the examiners could be paid according to the number of papers examined. May I be permitted to suggest also that if the Government is going to claim the old State endowments of education, which, according to the Temple Lands Commissioners have been grossly misused, that a portion of those endowments could be appropriated to no worthier object than this. To the probable objection (2) that the constituency would be not large, I would urge that a glance at the Director's list of schools in which superior education is given will show that it would in all probability be large enough for a beginning, and would, I believe, be quite as large as the Universities of Madras and Bombay when they were founded. This question of a larger or smaller constituency is, it appears to me, of very minor importance when compared with the advantages to be gained from the establishment of a University. Another objection may arise (3) in connection with the question as to whether we have in Ceylon men of sufficient education and ability in a sufficient number to constitute such a University Board. I think this objection will scarcely be urged by any one acquainted with the gentlemen who form the Ceylon Civil Service, with many of the leaders of the legal and medical professions, and the ministers of various churches, to say nothing of the scholarship to be found in non-professional circles. (4) The popular objection to the multiplication of degrees might be left to be dealt with in the constitution and working of the University. The founding of a University with the power to confer degrees does not necessarily imply a misuse of that power. The degrees could be limited in number, and provision could be made for one or more degrees which should be for the encouragement of an education in the industrial arts and sciences.

Taking it all in all, I think it will be found that the objections to such a University will be far outweighed by its advantages to the Colony. This is no new idea. It has been frequently mentioned by Ceylon educationists, and has been referred to in former reports of the Public Instruction Department, as a possible means of correcting some of the chief defects of our present system of higher education. Such a foreign University education as prevails at present cannot be the best adapted to the requirements of the Colony. And I am persuaded that Your Excellency could do nothing that would further the interests of the higher education of the country more than by securing for it a University of Ceylon.

III.—Female Education.

The first recommendation of the Indian Commission on this important subject reads as follows:—

"1.—*That female education be treated as a legitimate charge alike on Local, on Municipal, "and on Provincial funds, and receive special encouragement.*"

The recommendations go on to point out how this "special encouragement" should be given.

"2.—*That all female schools, or orphanages, whether on a religious basis or not, be eligible "for aid, so far as they produce any secular results, such as a knowledge of reading or of writing.*"

"3.—*That the conditions of aid to girls' schools be easier than to boys' schools, and the rates "higher—more especially in the case of those established for poor or for low caste girls.*"

"4.—*That the conditions of aid to girls' schools be so framed as to allow for the fact that "girls' schools generally contain a large proportion of beginners, and of those who cannot attend "schools for so many hours a day, or with such regularity as boys.*"

"5.—*That the standards of instruction for primary girls' schools be simpler than those for "boys' schools, and be drawn up with special reference to the requirements of home life and the "occupations open to women.*"

"6.—*That the greatest care be exercised in the selection of suitable text-books for girls'* "*schools, and that the preparation of such books be encouraged.*"

"13.—*That the establishment of infant schools or classes under school mistresses be liberally* "*encouraged.*"

I have selected these recommendations as having a special application to the present requirements of female education in Ceylon. The provisions of the Ceylon Code for this most important branch of educational work are in painful contrast to the recommendations of the Commissioners. Very little space is devoted to the matter in the Code.

The only "special encouragement" given to female education is given to the very few boarding schools of the country, where to the boarders and day scholars, should the number of day scholars be equal only to one-fourth of the boarders, the grant paid for the passes is doubled. I am not aware that this provision has proved of sufficient encouragement to lead managers to establish many boarding schools in addition to those in existence before the present Code was introduced.

The lower average attendance required in girls' schools as compared with boys' I do not regard as a "special encouragement." It would be very hard indeed if the same attendance were required as well as the same attainments from girls as from boys.

The reason for the recommendation "that the conditions of aid to girls' schools be easier "than to boys' schools, and the rates higher," will be obvious at once when the comparative hereditary incapacity of native girls is considered, as well as the long neglect of all female education. In Ceylon the conditions are not easier, and the rates are not higher, in girls' schools than in those for boys. Could anything show more strikingly the want of elasticity and adaptation in a Code, copied largely from that of a highly civilized country like England and made to apply to a country like this?

The standards and the payments for the standards are the same in both. The standards are difficult enough for boys; they are still more difficult for girls. When this is considered, it will be seen that the needlework clause—elaborate and stringent in its demands—will be regarded by many as an additional burthen rather than a "special encouragement." I know of girls' schools where the teachers, owing to the difficulty of qualifying the scholars for the standards, find it almost impossible, without adding to the ordinary school hours, to find time for the needlework—not an unimportant matter in female education.

There is not one of the recommendations on female education quoted above, which is not as necessary in Ceylon as in India.

IV.—Moral Teaching and Text-Books.

The Department, wisely I think, makes no one book or set of books binding on our schools. The only condition in regard to the "Readers" used, seems to be that they should contain a variety of useful information suited to the standards, and at the same time free from anything tainted with disloyalty or immorality. Within these limits a perfect freedom seems to be allowed in the production and selection of those most important text-books, the Readers. In Roman Catholic schools the readers produced by the Christian Brothers are, I believe, in general use; and in Protestant Mission Schools, those of the Christian Vernacular Education Society. With the religious tendency of these books the Department wisely refrains from interfering. And this liberty which prevails in the Ceylon educational system is, to my mind, a much better solution of a great difficulty than that proposed by the Indian Commission, viz., "the preparation of a "moral text-book, based on the principles of natural religion."

Any interference, by means of a "conscience clause" or otherwise, would inevitably lead to results that would be not only detrimental to national education, but full of difficulty to the Government and damaging to the best interests of the country.

The Bible would not be the only book affected by such a clause. Under the present system the Department pays nothing for religious teaching, and any departure from its neutrality in that respect would be full of dangerous issues.

The value of denominational education, as opposed to that which is destitute of distinct religious teaching such as obtains in the English Board schools, is admirably set forth in the following extract from a recent Pastoral letter of Cardinal Manning:—"All the legislative "changes of the last half century are superficial compared with the change which has passed upon "the education of the people. Education makes or mars the mind and life of men. The national "character was at stake. Christianity made them what they were; and schools without Chris-"tianity, or with a creedless Christianity, would unmake what remains of Christian England."

One of the most patent facts of recent educational history in Europe seems to be that the truest moral training of the young lies in the direction of denominational education. And this principle applies with nearly as great force to Ceylon as to England. And I believe that the great majority of the people of Ceylon, who set any value on education, recognize that fact.

While on the subject of Readers, I may be permitted to mention that good intelligent reading is a very rare accomplishment in Ceylon schools. And much of the imperfect English with which we are from time to time made acquainted, and probably much of the "cramming" which is so prevalent, are the results of a general want of attention to this foundation science. Any action of the Department which would tend to encourage or induce teachers to pay greater attention to this important subject, and break down the mechanical system now in vogue, would result in a more thorough understanding of English and that better education which rests on intelligent reading.

Text-books on special subjects are being gradually introduced. It is of the utmost importance that such books be adapted in their general tone, as well as in illustration and reference, to the circumstances of the people.

The production of a text-book for advanced classes, dealing with the Physical as well as Historical Geography of the Island, would supply a long-felt want.

Health and Sanitary Science might be introduced with advantage into the list of specific subjects.

A book of simple, easy lessons on "Thrift" would be invaluable for "class-subject" teaching, should the Department think of supplementing the ordinary elementary school education with a scheme for practical teaching corresponding to the "class subjects" of the English Code.

If the requirements of the people are to be studied in the framing of an educational system, it is difficult to see what good reasons the authors of our Code had for omitting the useful and necessary subjects just mentioned.

The arrangements for "specific subjects" seem to have been copied almost entirely from the list in the English Code, without reference to the requirements of Ceylon.

It may be said that the necessary text-books were not available. It is satisfactory to see from the Director's reports that the Public Instruction Department is seeking to supply the lack of suitable text-books, and has already accomplished a good deal in this direction.

The Indian Government has tried the plan—I believe with great success—of offering prizes for the production of such books. A prize of Rs. 500 was offered a few years since, which resulted in the admirable Sanitary Primer in use in Indian schools. Prizes for translations into the vernaculars, as well as for original writing, would, I feel sure, be the best, and probably the least expensive, method for securing the text-books required.

I should like to state, in connection with the subject of "Thrift," that about four years ago I submitted a scheme to Mr Bruce, then Director of Public Instruction, for the establishment of a "School Savings Bank," for the purpose of teaching the children of Ceylon the value of "Thrift" in the most practical way possible. So far as I can remember, the proposal was that it should be worked with the help of the Ceylon Savings Bank; that each child depositing money should be furnished with a card in which, as well as in the school register, all deposits and withdrawals should be entered; that children should be encouraged to bring whatever sums their parents or guardians could afford, however small; and that at the close of every month, on a stated day, the teacher should take what money he had in hand to the nearest Kachchéri for deposit in the Ceylon Savings Bank. This is merely a suggestion as to what would probably be a most useful method for teaching and encouraging "Thrift." I must confess to not being in a position to supply details for such a scheme, but I have an idea that it need not be very difficult of operation.

V.—Teachers.

The section of the Code which deals with teachers needs careful and very thorough revision. This year will be the first of its application, and I am afraid that it will be found to be impracticable in its present form. In most backward districts it will be impossible to secure teachers qualifying under this section. The same want of elasticity is observable in this as in other parts of the Code. In the last two clauses of this section there is evidently no thought of the difficulty just referred to,—that of securing teachers for out-lying districts:

"50. After the 1st day of January, 1884, no principal teacher shall be appointed to any vernacular "or Anglo-vernacular school in receipt of grant, unless he holds a certificate or license of the Department."

"51. After the 1st January, 1884, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular "school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the Department."

How utterly impracticable all this is in uniform application, will be seen at once on reading these two clauses in connection with that part of my letter which deals with the "Provincial Distribution of Education."

The following questions are naturally suggested on reading this section:—Why should English schools be untouched by the new regulations, and such stringent rules be applied to Vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools? And will not the tendency of such a course be to foster English teaching (without restrictions) to the disparagement of the Vernacular?

It seems to me that in order to be workable this section will have to be made much more elastic, both in regard to limit of time and difference of locality.

VI.—Provincial Distribution of Education.

In the Director's report for 1882 we read: "It is generally estimated that fifteen per cent. of the entire population of any country should be in attendance at school; but it was the opinion of the Bengal Provincial Committee that twelve per cent., or one in 8·5, more nearly represented the proper portion. Taking the latter estimate, and basing my calculation on the last Census return which gives the male population at 1,469,553, and the female population at 1,290,185, it follows that the number of boys to be educated is 172,900, and the number of girls 140,000; while the number in actual attendance is 67,777 boys and 21,662 girls. In other words, nearly two-thirds of our boys and more than five-sixths of our girls are without the advantages of education."

This is an unsatisfactory picture, as the Director intimates. But we are often told that we should congratulate ourselves on the fact that we are considerably in advance of India in regard to the proportion of the population under education.

The answer to that is, that this was the chief purpose of the Commission, to advise the Government as to the best means of remedying what was considered a glaring defect. There can be no reason for self-congratulation when we remember that "nearly two-thirds of our boys "and more than five-sixths of our girls are without the advantages of education."

The proportion of children receiving education, low though it is, would not be so bad but for its unequal distribution. And this unequal distribution of education in Ceylon is one of the worst features of the educational work of the country.

While education is comparatively lavished on the large towns and big villages in the Maritime Districts, though they are not by any means over-educated, the backward districts are almost, if not utterly neglected. As will be seen from the following table, this neglect—I can call it by no other name—extends to whole Provinces :—

Distribution of Male Education in Ceylon.

Province.	Male population.	Under instruction.	Proportion.
Northern ...	151,565 ...	16,708	= 1 in 9
Eastern ...	66,577 ...	5,547	= 1 in 12
Western ...	475,397 ...	29,451	= 1 in 16·1
Southern ...	220,885 ...	7,878	= 1 in 29·3
North-Western ...	158,026 ...	3,293	= 1 in 47·9
Central ...	361,523 ...	5,109	= 1 in 70·7
North-Central ..	35,580 ...	293	= 1 in 124·4

Distribution of Female Education.

Province.	Female population.	Under instruction.	Proportion.
Western ...	421,932 ...	12,451	= 1 in 33
Northern ...	150,935 ...	4,464	= 1 in 33·8
Eastern ...	60,978 ...	956	= 1 in 63·7
Southern ..	212,635 ...	2,133	= 1 in 99·6
North-Western ...	135,801 ...	1,111	= 1 in 121·7
Central ..	277,838 ...	548	= 1 in 511·6
North-Central ...	30,566 ...	4	= 1 in 7,641·5

For the last three Provinces taken together, comprising *more than one-half of the area and more than one-third of the population of Ceylon*, we have the following proportions of children under instruction to the population : —

Males	...	1 in 80
Females	...	1 in 2,758

According to the Educational Census of India, 1881, not one of the Indian Provinces, even the most backward, can show such bad results in regard to the education of males, while there is only one Province—that of the Haidarabad Assigned Districts—which shows a smaller proportion of education amongst females! And that in a country notoriously backward in female education, with prejudices and hindrances such as are unknown in Ceylon!

In consideration of these figures, may we not fairly arrive at the conclusion that there must be some serious defect in a system of public instruction which exhibits such immense discrepancies in the distribution of education?

Where does the defect lie? It will be evident that one reason for these sad results will be found in what was pointed out in the beginning of this letter, viz., *the want of elasticity in the Code.* A Code made to apply to the ill-educated half of the country in the same terms as to the well-educated half—with one or two trifling exceptions—must of necessity be inapplicable and in no sense a remedy.

The want of sufficient encouragement to Missionary and other educational bodies must be regarded as another cause. Missionary societies are ready to support itinerating and preaching work, and to take upon themselves, as they do in Ceylon, a good share of the education of the people, but they cannot be expected to take upon themselves the expense of education in the backward districts, without considerably greater help from Government than is provided for in the present Code. The educational statistics of the three neglected Provinces show very clearly how essential is the assistance of the voluntary bodies to the education of the country, a fact which the Department has always been ready to acknowledge. Nearly one-half of the schools in the three Provinces are Government schools. It is clear that the Societies have not funds equal to the work, or do not think the Code sufficiently liberal for the purpose. It is probably due to both reasons. It is evident that the remedy must be sought in a special provincial legislation suited to the educational requirements of the Province.

This inequality of distribution appears still more extraordinary, however, when we come down from Provinces to Districts.

The largest District in Ceylon is that of Badulla, in the Central Province, which District is larger in area than the whole of the Western Province. It has a population larger than that of all the Eastern Province.

The educational proportion is as follows :—

	Population.	Under Instruction.	Proportion.
Male ...	92,627 ...	267	= 1 in 347
Female ...	73,065 ...	34	= 1 in 2,149

Of the 301 under instruction in this immense District, 101, including 80 boys and 21 girls, are being taught in the two English Government schools of the little town of Badulla. The remaining 200 are distributed in five village vernacular schools. Of the 200, only 13 are girls. And in this unequally, badly educated Central Province, the Government has saved on Education, according to the reports for 1880–1882, since 1880 at the rate of Rs. 8,000 a year.

The Kandy Industrial School grant is not included in this estimate for either year.

It seems to me that the only remedy for this deplorable state of things is for the Government to offer liberal inducements to voluntary aid, or to bring pressure to bear on Gaṇsabhâwas

and headmen generally. Both means may be necessary until the people are educated to appreciate education.

This part of my letter cannot be more fittingly concluded than by quoting the clause which refers to education in the report of the Select Committee on Retrenchment:—

"*Education.*—Approves Mr. Bruce's proposal for relieving the public funds of a portion of the cost "of expenditure on Government schools. This may be done throughout the Kandyan Districts on the "basis of the report made by the Buddhist Temporalities. A great saving may be effected by apportioning "a share of the tax now paid by the Buddhists to the Temple Trustees, to the 'secular education of the "Kandyan people,' instead of allowing the whole to be used exclusively for religious purposes. In the "Central and North-Western Provinces, the per-centage of children receiving education is miserably "small."

In conclusion, I should like to point out that my letter deals with measures and not men, and I trust that nothing said in it will be considered to reflect in any way on the gentlemen administering the Education Department, from whom I have received great courtesy and kindness, and for whom I have the highest esteem. I would also beg respectfully to suggest to Your Excellency that the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the working of the present system of education in Ceylon, its adaptability to the wants of the people, and its distribution over the country, might be of the utmost service to the Public Instruction Department, as well as to the Colony at large.

The importance of the subject must be my apology for trespassing at such length on Your Excellency's time and attention.

In doing so, I have been prompted solely by an earnest desire for the progress and prosperity of the country under Your Excellency's Government, which progress and prosperity depend on nothing more largely than on the character and development of Public Instruction.

I have, &c.,

S. LANGDON,

Kandy, 14th August, 1884. Wesleyan Missionary.

No. 2.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ON THE FOREGOING.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 8th November, 1884.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to return the very interesting letter of the Rev. S. Langdon, in which he makes a number of comments and suggestions regarding public education in Ceylon, basing those comments mainly upon the report of the Indian Education Commission.

2. Concerning the preface or introduction to Mr. Langdon's letter, I have two remarks to make:—

(*a*) Mr. Langdon urges that a tendency to "cram," of which he complains, may be met by an alteration of the Revised Code so that it may provide for payment of grants not merely for examination results, but "for buildings and furniture dependent on the general efficiency of the school;" and he supports his contention by an appeal to the English system. The appeal to England is, I fear, unfortunate, as I can find no such system at present existing in England.

I have also the honour to point out that, unless the rates of results-payment grants be materially lowered, it will be financially impossible to pay the additional grants desired by Mr. Langdon.

Moreover, it has been expressly stated by the Secretary of State that "salaries, school "furniture, and books and stationery supplied gratuitously to teachers, are the only items of the "expenditure of grant-in-aid schools to which the Government grant can properly be applied."

Thus, *buildings* are specially excluded, while the present grant paid for results of examination covers furniture amongst other objects.

But, apart from questions of this nature, I doubt whether any alteration in the system of grant-in-aid would check a tendency to "cram," so long as any grant at all is paid for examination results—and Mr. Langdon does not wish that result payments should cease. It seems to me that boys would still be worked up or "crammed" for the examination grant, whether that grant were great or small; and I cannot but think that the true remedy for "cram" lies in the hands of managers themselves, who should carefully prohibit any working over hours where they find "cramming," prevailing in their schools.

(*b*) Mr. Langdon complains of a want of elasticity in the standards of the Code. I cannot admit this want of elasticity. It is true that on the face of the Code the schedules of work prescribe one standard of examination for all districts and for all nationalities in this country; but as a matter of practice, no Inspector would, in the case of reading for example, expect or require as fluent reading from a boy in a "C" school in the North-Central Province as he would from a boy in a good town school.

In this respect there is considerable elasticity in the working of the Code as regards *vernacular* schools, and until recently there has been the same in the case of English schools, but the latter have now been ordered to be universally kept up to standard.

So much for elasticity of the Code as regards different districts.

As regards the need of varying our standards for different races, experience shows that Sinhalese, Tamils, and Moors are all alike able to come up to the existing standards of the Code, when they attend a Government or grant-in-aid school, and I cannot therefore see that any varying of the standards is on this account necessary.

3. I now come to Mr. Langdon's remarks concerning *primary education*. Mr. Langdon quotes with approval the following recommendations of the Indian Commission :—

(*a*) "That primary education be regarded as the instruction of the masses through the vernacular in such subjects as will best fit them for their position in life, and be not necessarily regarded as a portion of instruction leading up to the University."

(*b*) "That the standards of primary examination in each Province be revised with a view to simplification and to the larger introduction of practical subjects, such as native methods of Arithmetic, Accounts and Mensuration, the Elements of Natural and Physical Science, and their application to agriculture, health and the industrial arts; but that no attempt be made to secure general uniformity throughout India."

I need scarcely say that I most fully concur with these views in the main (though I think there is no need of simplification in Ceylon), and it will be remembered that one of the very first steps which I took upon my appointment as Director last year was to secure the sanction of Government to the teaching of agriculture in all Government vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools, making it compulsory in the 5th and higher standards, and optional in lower standards.

There has, however, been some delay in introducing this scheme, owing to the want of an agricultural text-book suitable for Ceylon, so that I had to write the text-book myself; but on the 1st January, 1885, the new system comes definitely into operation in our Government vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools.

I have not as yet introduced it into grant-in-aid schools, because I did not wish to disturb their present system of working until I had seen what success the new method met with in our Government schools.

As regards Industrial arts, provision is already made in the Ceylon Code for a grant of Rs. 5 per head in addition to the general grants, for every boy above ten years of age who is learning a trade in a registered industrial school.

I could wish that this provision of the Code were more largely made use of by managers than it is, but I had the pleasure of registering one new industrial school at the close of 1883 in addition to the few existing schools of this class.

I had also considered the propriety of adopting the study of Domestic Economy, as in England, while on my recent furlough this year, and I am only delayed in advising its introduction into the schedule of subjects for grant-in-aid girls' schools by the difficulty of procuring a text-book suitable to Ceylon.

It had not occurred to me to introduce into the schedule the principles of sanitation, but I think the suggestion a very good one. A text-book will have to be adopted, and I am awaiting with interest the appearance of a Sanitary Primer which Mr. Langdon informs me that he is himself preparing.

I also propose to insert "Singing" as a class subject.

All these subjects I am prepared to introduce as optional "class" subjects, guarding our limited funds from increased expenditure on the one hand, and preventing overtasking of managers and teachers or cramming of scholars, on the other hand, by a limitation of the number of class subjects which may be taken up, so that the total number of subjects in which we examine for a grant shall not exceed those at present in force.

I do not, however, propose to make any provision for paying a grant for native methods of arithmetic. I have inquired carefully concerning native arithmetic and mathematics, and I find that everywhere they are dying out. Amongst the Tamils they are almost obsolete, and are scarcely ever taught in native Tamil schools. Amongst the Moors they are similarly dying out, while even in the pansala schools of so remote a district as Uva, I was informed on a recent tour that where any arithmetic at all is taught, the English methods are now pretty generally adopted, and that native mathematics are seldom used except in so far as they are required for astrological purposes. The recommendation of the Indian Commission on this point applies to vast masses of people which are in many places scarcely at all under the influence of English methods of education, but in Ceylon these influences are penetrating directly or indirectly almost everywhere, and it seems to me unnecessary to revive a system of arithmetic which is clumsy in itself, and which is being deliberately abandoned by the people of all nationalities in Ceylon

As regards the Elements of Science, they are already included in the schedule of "specific" subjects for our Ceylon English *high* schools, and I question whether they would be sufficiently understood if they were taught in our elementary and vernacular schools, or whether the probability of their usefulness in after life to native villagers is such as to render it advisable to place them amongst the subjects taught to lower standards or in vernacular schools.

I do not therefore include elementary scientific subjects amongst the proposed "*class*" subjects, but retain them in their present place amongst "*specific*" subjects.

4. As to Mr. Langdon's remarks concerning the harm done by unsuitable education and the disgust of our educated young men with all forms of manual labour, no one can be more impressed with this state of affairs than I am myself. When I was an Assistant Government Agent, I noticed it with regret over and over again, and since I have been Director of Public Instruction I have both spoken and written on the subject.

But I think Mr. Langdon is wrong if he intends to apply his remarks to *vernacular* education. My own experience is that it is the over-supply of *English* education which is

responsible for this very serious evil. I do not find that young men who have been educated in vernacular schools display the bad tendencies complained of.

I trust that the limitation of my votes which has led to the recent reduction in the amount of grants payable to English schools may indirectly prove a means of, in some degree, remedying this evil, by making it more profitable to managers to turn weak English schools into vernacular schools, retaining only a few good English high schools in central stations, where managers should recoup themselves for the reduced rate of grants by charging a proper rate of school fees, which are at present much too low for the English which is taught. Thus, only those who can afford to pay higher rates would be able to procure English education for their children, and the country should eventually be relieved of a pauper class of English-speaking young men who are too grand to work.

5. Mr. Langdon's remarks concerning "object lessons" are naturally founded on the grant-in-aid schools of which he has a more intimate knowledge. As a matter of fact, our Government teachers are very carefully trained in the giving of object lessons, and in Government schools where there are properly trained certificated teachers "object lessons" play an important part.

A special text-book has also been prepared on this subject, and published by this Department, but it has not met with any sale amongst grant-in-aid school managers—I am afraid, amongst other causes, because no special money value in the shape of a special grant for "object lessons' exists in the Ceylon Code.

But no such special grant exists in the English Code, and I think that it is not too much to expect that such managers as approve of object lessons will have them introduced (by those of their teachers who are capable of this method of instruction) *into the ordinary school lessons*, thus rendering them more interesting to the children, and in many cases securing the better understanding of what is taught. As Mr. Langdon justly remarks, object lessons of the class required for our elementary schools are not necessarily expensive.

6. It appears to me that much the same remarks apply to what Mr. Langdon says about "picture education." There is nothing to prevent managers using pictures as freely as they wish in their schools.

7. With regard to Mr. Langdon's strictures on the alterations made in the regulations concerning "C." schools, and the backward state of education in the Central, North-Central, and North-Western Provinces of Ceylon, it will be convenient to follow his arrangement, and to treat of this more fully under the head "Provincial Distribution of Education." I will only note here that there has been no alteration whatever in the standard of education required for "C." schools, but that capitation grants formerly paid for mere attendance have been abolished. But this was only from 1st January, 1884, and has consequently nothing to do with the backwardness of those districts up to the end of 1883, and Mr. Langdon's latest Ceylon quotations are from the report of this Department for 1882.

As regards the "general uniformity" objected to in the Code in points other than "C." schools, I have already replied in section 2 (*b*) of this report.

The seventh recommendation of the Indian Commission concerning special rules for backward districts will be best dealt with under the head "Provincial Distribution of Schools," the whole question being dealt with as one subject.

8. Mr. Langdon further quotes the following recommendation of the Indian Commission: "That as much elasticity as possible be permitted both as regards the hours of the day and the "seasons of the year during which attendance of scholars is required, especially in agricultural "districts."

I have only to remark on this point that in grant-in-aid schools managers are free to fix their own holidays and hours of attendance for their schools; all that this Department requires from them being an attendance of three hours for 100 days in the year during such session or sessions as managers may select; whereas in Government schools our holidays are always timed with a view to the periods when boys are specially required for fieldwork.

9. Mr. Langdon's last quotation, under the head "Primary Education," from the Indian Commission is as follows:—"That while every branch of education can justly claim the fostering "care of the State, it is desirable in the present circumstances of the country to declare the elementary education of the masses—its provision, extension, and improvement—to be that part of the "educational system to which the strenuous efforts of the State should now be directed, in a still "larger measure than heretofore."

In every respect *except extension* of elementary education, which is, I trust, only temporarily checked by the exigencies of a depressed revenue, the Ceylon Government is already carrying out this recommendation, by retiring as far as possible from English education and devoting its resources mainly to vernacular schools.

I hope in a few years to see English education in this country yet more self-supporting and self-relying, but this cannot be done all at once; and I look upon the handing over of the Government English schools in towns to Municipalities and Local Boards as an important step in the direction desired by Mr. Langdon.

10.—Middle and High Schools.

I now come to Mr. Langdon's remarks on "Secondary and Collegiate Education" in Ceylon.

I note that Mr. Langdon admits that "much of what is recommended [by the Indian Commission] under these heads is already being carried out" in Ceylon, but he is in error in stating that the progress of which he speaks has been "unattended with any great additional expense to the Government." Every improved high school must needs earn a larger grant from the Government under the "result" system payment in proportion to its improvement. But it is to be noted that, except in the leading colleges, there has been no very great improvement in our higher education.

11. With regard to the recommendation "that in the upper classes of high schools there be two divisions—one leading to the entrance examinations of the Universities, the other of a more practical character, intended to fit youth for commercial or other non-literary pursuits," it seems to me that there is a fair opportunity given in schedule C. of specific subjects for a master or boy in a high school to select whether to take up a "modern" course of study or a classical course.

The specific subjects for which grants are paid are (1) Mathematics, (2) Latin, (3) Mechanics, (4) Animal Physiology, (5) Botany, (6) Drawing, (7) Chemistry, (8) Light and Heat, (9) Magnetism, Electricity.

On the other hand, (looking further into Mr. Langdon's letter,) I think I may fairly sum up his arguments by saying that he contends that the awarding of the English University Scholarship by the Department of Public Instruction upon the results of the Cambridge Local Examination, (and it might be added, the extension to Ceylon of the Gilchrist Scholarship awarded upon the results of the London University Examination,) draws off teachers and boys to these examinations, to the detriment of the "modern side" of a school.

As a matter of fact, this is true. The same thing is however true in our large schools in England, where a University course is generally the object of ambition to most boys, *if their parents allow them* to follow a classical course of study. It appears to me that the question in Ceylon resolves itself into this: Would it be right for this Department to encourage the taking up of "modern" specific subjects in our high schools by withdrawing the English University Scholarship, or by awarding it upon another examination than the Cambridge Local?

I may say at once, that we cannot afford to add a modern side scholarship, such as is recommended by the Indian Commission (section 17), while as regards the Gilchrist Scholarship this Department only accepts the generosity of the Gilchrist Trustees, and does not itself contribute any funds to this scholarship. We have only therefore to consider the "English University Scholarship," which is paid by the Ceylon Government.

Now, I cannot think that it would be right or wise to withdraw this Scholarship. Ceylon has a right to expect, and demand, that its leading talent of the rising generation should be aided in obtaining the enormous advantages of an education at our great English Universities. Whatever may be said in favour of Indian Universities, the fact remains, and will remain, that the lessons of life to be learned in our English Universities are far greater than can be obtained in any other place. I need not name distinguished natives of this country who have benefited largely, and risen to eminence and usefulness, after a course of study and residence in England, and I am very sure that it is our duty to afford every aid which we can to the development of thought, and extended knowledge of life, which can nowhere be obtained better than at an English University like Oxford or Cambridge.

Then comes the question of whether we are right in awarding this English University Scholarship on the results of the Cambridge Local Examination.

It seems to me that this is as good an examination as any other upon which to award the scholarship, and I see no reason to change it, and I think that it is very desirable that the examination should be conducted in England, as the successful student will have to proceed to England.

I may note that at Wesley College, (which is, I believe, the one referred to by Mr. Langdon as having been discouraged in its attempts at the formation of a "modern side,") opinion on the subject of the Cambridge Local Examination interfering with modern subjects is at least uncertain. For the Principal of that College made the following statement at its last prize day:—

"The popularity of the modern side has greatly decreased, mostly because of the increasing demand "for public competitive examinations. At the end of the year very few students remained on that side; "but, although the same danger existed in Ceylon as elsewhere, namely, that of regarding the modern side "as a good opportunity for relinquishing distasteful studies without the exercise of proper industry in its "special subjects, the time may come when the parents of Ceylon will appreciate its advantages, *especially "as the Cambridge Local Examinations give the modern sider a fair chance of distinguishing himself.*"

In my opinion, the proper course for the encouragement of modern education in high schools is, not to make any alteration in the Cambridge Local or other examinations, nor do I think, as before stated, that any alteration in the Code is necessary. But I think that *managers should select such boys as appear to them in need of modern education,* and that they should, *by influencing their parents* and by other legitimate means, devote such boys entirely to the modern subjects in schedule C. of the Code, avoiding all temptation of classics in these cases.

12. I regret that in the present state of the public funds it is impossible for me to recommend grants for the formation of libraries in all high schools, as asked.

13. The recommendation regarding giving help to school managers in the renewal, and if necessary the increase, of their school furniture, has been incidentally dealt with in paragraph 2 of this report, where I showed that it was expected that the result payment grant should go towards school furniture amongst other heads of expenditure.

14. With regard to the question of school fees, I have already revised and raised the rates of tuition fees at the Royal College, which, after the transfer of Government English town schools to Municipalities, will be the only Government high school which can in any sense be said to compete with aided high schools. There can thus now be no further cause for complaint on this score.

As regards the further recommendation, "That the Director of Public Instruction, in consultation with the managers of schools receiving aid from Government, determine the scale of fees to be charged, and the proportion of pupils to be exempted from payment therein," I personally have always wished that this could be done, and I am very glad to find a grant-in-aid manager of the position and influence of Mr. Langdon advocating such a course. But, as a body,

I greatly doubt whether managers of aided schools would agree to this proposal. There is always considerable soreness as regards any interference with private management in matters of this nature.

I may mention, however, that I know of several managers who, privately at any rate, hold the same views as Mr. Langdon on this point, and, if His Excellency approves, I shall be glad to address a circular to managers concerning Mr. Langdon's proposal.

15. As regards grant-in-aid schools, the same remarks apply to recommendation No. 11, concerning fixing a proportion of free students. In Government schools the proportion is already fixed at 5 per cent.

16. Concerning the recommendation of the Indian Commission for establishing scholarships for enabling distinguished graduates to proceed to Europe for the purpose of practically studying some branch of mechanical industry, I should very much like to see this adopted, but, as already pointed out in this report, it is at present out of the question on the score of expense. I may note, however, that something in aid of mechanical training is already being done locally at the Government Factory.

As regards Mr. Langdon's suggestion that a scholarship of the above nature should replace the present English University Scholarship, I cannot advise this; it being, in my opinion, most important to retain the English University Scholarship for the reasons given in section 11 of this report.

17. Mr. Langdon next objects to the limitation in the number of specific subjects for which a grant is paid.

In the English Code only two specific subjects are allowed to be taken up for a grant, and, apart from all question of money, I think that Mr. Langdon's own objections to "cram" come in here with force. My own opinion is, that as a general rule boys are worked quite hard enough in Ceylon high schools, and it therefore is not advisable on this score to increase the number of specific subjects taken up for a grant, because boys might often be compelled to overwork at extra subjects in order to gain a larger grant for a school.

But where special circumstances exist, and where managers satisfy me that their boys are not overworked, I am prepared to examine (though not for a grant) in extra specific subjects, and I have at one high school done so, and shall always gladly meet the wishes of managers so far, it being understood that there is thus no temptation to overwork for a money grant.

With regard to the statement that the portion of the grant paid for Superior Education is exceedingly small, and out of all proportion smaller than the expenditure in Government schools on similar education, in 1883 (excluding fractions) the amount spent on Government superior general instruction was Rs. 37,814, and on Government middle and primary instruction Rs. 157,093, while the corresponding amounts on the grant-in-aid side were Rs. 34,802 superior, and Rs. 141,853 middle and primary. Next year the expenditure on Superior Instruction in Government schools will be very considerably less, owing to the transfer of English schools to Municipalities.

Concerning the complaint of the alteration of grants for specific subjects from Rs. 4 for each stage, to Rs. 2 for stage I., Rs. 4 for stage II., and Rs. 6 for stage III., the amendment was rendered absolutely necessary to prevent boys being put to the lower stages of specific subjects, and going from one subject to another without ever completing the three stages of one subject. The total money value of grants for the complete three stages of a subject remains the same, viz., Rs. 12, only it will not now pay managers not to take a boy through the whole of a subject, because the highest payment is—very properly, I submit—made for the last and highest stage.

The proposal quoted from Bishop Bonjean that the amended system should be preserved, but that the grants should be Rs. 4, Rs. 6, and Rs. 8 respectively, it is financially impossible to consider.

18. With regard to Mr. Langdon's recommendations concerning "agriculture" and "Domestic Economy," I have already proposed in section 3 of this report to include them in a schedule of "class subjects," but I propose to retain schedule "C." of "specific subjects" untouched, as schedule C. only concerns "high schools," and I wish to see these subjects taught in all schools.

19. Concerning Mr. Langdon's remarks on the University Examinations, I have, I think, sufficiently expressed my views in section 11 concerning the English University Examinations. I may add that the Botanical errors in the Cambridge Local, quoted from Mr. Dixon by Mr. Langdon, have been already rectified, and will not, I hope, occur again. I having specially written to the Cambridge Local Examination authorities on the subject.

In the main, as I have before said, I see no reason to sever our connection with the Cambridge Local Examinations, and most certainly we should by our English University Scholarship encourage our best native talent to proceed to actual residence at one of our great English Universities.

For the general run of natives desiring a University education, the Indian Universities must continue to suffice, for the present at any rate, without the creation of a special University in Ceylon.

My own main objections to a Ceylon University are two:—Firstly, that if we have a University at all, we should have a really good one, and that we cannot expect at present. The Indian Universities themselves have been the subject of serious criticism, and until there are really good Universities in India we can scarcely expect a really good one in Ceylon.

And, secondly, I feel that until we can have a University where the members should all be resident in a group of really good Colleges in one city, as at Oxford or Cambridge, instead of a University consisting of a number of affiliated so-called Colleges in various towns in the Island, (which is what a Ceylon University would be on the Indian system), we can have none of the

chief advantages of a University, which to my mind are a gaining of knowledge of life and manliness, and an expansion of thought and character, which can only be obtained on the lines of our chief English Universities, and not by adopting the Indian principle.

III.—Female Education.

20. Mr. Langdon complains that sufficient encouragement is not given to female education in Ceylon, and he specially complains—

(1) That the double grant offered by the Ceylon Code to girls' boarding schools has not proved a sufficient encouragement to lead managers to establish many boarding schools in addition to those in existence before Mr. Bruce introduced the present Code.

(2) That the lower average attendance required in girls' schools as compared with boys' schools is not a "special encouragement," because it would be very hard indeed if the same attendance were expected from girls' as from boys'.

(3) That the conditions of aid to girls' schools in Ceylon are not easier, and the rates of grant are not higher, than is the case in boys' schools, and that the standards are the same in both boys' and girls' schools.

(4) That some managers find it almost impossible to work girls up to standard without neglecting needlework, unless they add to the ordinary school hours, and the standard for needlework is elaborate and stringent.

21. Concerning these objections, I have to remark as follows:—

(1) It is true that the number of girls' boarding schools to which a grant-in-aid is paid has not increased. But there are 14 girls' boarding schools on the grant-in-aid list, besides some which are unaided, and this number is in excess of boys' boarding schools.

Further, I am inclined to believe that the real reason that girls' boarding schools do not increase more rapidly is that there are *already* such schools at most of the chief missionary stations in Ceylon, and that until there are more chief missionary stations *with European ladies resident*, the number of girls' boarding schools is not likely to increase, as only missionaries open schools of this class. I would also note that missionaries have often told me of the difficulties which they have to encounter in getting girls as boarders, owing to objections raised by their parents.

I think that these two points are more really answerable for the non-increase of girls' boarding schools than is the scale of grants, which is double the ordinary grant and apparently very liberal. But apart from the above, I must say that my own opinion is that Ceylon is to be congratulated on having so many excellent girls' boarding schools as it has; and, digressing from the very excellent work already done in boarding schools in particular, I would note that the *general* progress of female education in this country, judging from the numbers under instruction, is most cheering.

The number of girls under instruction since 1879 is as follows:—

1879	...	17,526	1882	...	21,662
1880	...	18,798	1883	...	21,784
1881	...	20,566			

And when it is remembered that the present Code came into force partly in the year 1881, and wholly in the year 1882, it can scarcely be said that the above figures are not very favourable to this Code as regards the education of our girls.

I would further note that in Madras, where female education is more advanced (though very slightly behind Bombay) than in the rest of India, the number of girls under instruction during the school year 1882-83 was 28,798, as compared with 338,257 boys, while in Ceylon during 1883 there were 21,784 girls under instruction as compared with 67,246 boys. That is to say (excluding fractions), one girl is at school in Ceylon for every three boys, but in Madras only one girl for every eleven boys. Surely this is nothing to complain of, nor to refer to the Indian Commission about!

(2) I must say that I consider the lower average required for girls' schools than for boys' a "special encouragement" to female education.

(3) As regards conditions of aid, standards, and grants, Mr. Langdon is in error. For instance, a girl is only required to work two sums correctly for a pass, whereas a boy has to work three—so that, although the subject required in each standard is the same for boys as girls, yet the work required in that standard is materially less for girls than for boys.

Again, a girls' school gets an extra money grant for needlework in addition to earning the same grant as a boys' school of less severely tested work. Thus the total grant for a boy in a vernacular school in the 1st standard is Rs. 4·50, but a girl in the same standard would be able to earn Rs. 6 by the extra needlework grant; while in the 8th standard the maximum grant for a boy would be Rs. 15, but for a girl taking needlework Rs. 17·50. [These figures are doubled in the case of girls' boarding schools.]

(4) As regards the alleged elaborateness of the standard for needlework, Mr. Blair informs me that the requirements for needlework were furnished by a lady of Mr. Langdon's own Mission, and at the head of one of the largest girls' boarding schools in the Island.

The complaint of it being almost impossible to bring girls up to standard without working overtime, is new to me, and I hardly understand such a necessity for overtime, because, as a rule, the girls in the *good* schools are *as quick, and quicker than the boys*, and Mr. Langdon's own girls' high school at Kandy is pre-eminently a good one, having obtained a higher grant per head than did the boys of Trinity College at the same town.

23. I do not discuss the recommendations of the Indian Commission concerning female education as quoted by Mr. Langdon, because I really think that in this matter we are so far ahead of India that we may congratulate ourselves rather than complain.

Mr. Blair's report, which I annex, gives some further details which more than endorse what I say.

IV.—Moral Teaching and Text-Books.

23. As regards moral teaching, I think the policy of this Department up to date has been sufficiently dwelt upon in my Administration Report for 1883, and I need here say no more on the subject.

24. As regards general text-books, the Department is doing all that it can. And as soon as I know whether the Government approve of the new class subjects proposed by me in section 3 of this report, I shall endeavour to supply the necessary books. The limitation of the vote allowed to this Department precludes my offering prizes for text-books, as suggested.

25. I should be very glad indeed to see School Savings Banks. The chief difficulty is honesty of teachers. Even in the matter of collecting school fees, teachers have more than once during my own brief Directorship been found guilty of dishonesty, and in outlying districts there would be some risk in entrusting poorly paid vernacular school teachers with such duties as school savings banks would entail upon them. But I by no means wish to abandon this very useful suggestion; only I would suggest that I should wait until I see how the Post Office Savings Banks work when they come into operation.

V.—Teachers.

26. As regards vernacular teachers, the amendments of the Code for 1885 will, I think, meet Mr. Langdon's objections except as regards remote and backward districts. If the difficulties which Mr. Langdon fears should actually arise in such districts, I shall be prepared to consider them.

As regards Mr. Langdon's query, "Why should English schools be untouched by the new regulations" (requiring certificates or licenses for vernacular and Anglo-vernacular teachers), the Government is aware that my own opinion coincides with Mr. Langdon's, and that at the commencement of this year I issued a circular on the subject to managers, and recently urged upon the Government the advisableness of extending the certificate system to English teachers.

But it has now been decided that for the present the certificate system is not to be enforced for English schools in Ceylon, but that the examinations of English schools are to be kept strictly up to standard instead, which it is expected will have the same result as the certificate system which I proposed.

VI.—Provincial Distribution of Schools.

27. Mr. Langdon complains, and justly, of the little that is done in the way of education in the North-Central, North-Western and Central Provinces, and, in the latter, in Uva especially. The facts are incontrovertible. The only questions are, What is the reason, and what is the remedy for this state of affairs?

Mr. Langdon gives the following reasons:—

(1) Want of elasticity of the Code;

(2) Want of encouragement of missionary effort;

(3) And in an earlier portion of his letter he has complained of the abolition of capitation grants to C. schools.

28. (1) I have already pointed out that the want of elasticity in the Code is apparent rather than real.

(2) As regards want of encouragement to missionary effort, I can only consider this in he sense of want of encouragement to the *grant-in-aid* schools, whether such schools be missionary or not. As a matter of fact, they are mainly missionary.

So far as personal encouragement is concerned, I have done all I can to discourage weak English grant-in-aid schools, and of this I trust Mr. Langdon will not complain in view of his remarks concerning the evil effects on the youth of Ceylon resulting from an education unsuited to their needs in life. But as regards vernacular grant-in-aid education, I have carried out the policy of my predecessors in office, and I have done all I can to aid it.

As regards financial encouragement presented by the Code to grant-in-aid vernacular primary schools, I may note that, taking the number of children on the list, the average grant earned per head in Ceylon vernacular schools is for 1883 Rs. 2·34; in Bengal for 1882–83 it is Rs. 1·82 in what are there called "upper primary" vernacular schools, and 60 cents in "lower primary" schools, or, combining the two, Rs. 1·21 per head for *all* primary schools; while in Madras for 1882–83, it is Rs. 1·68 per head.

I have not any other figures at hand, but, when compared with these two important Presidencies of India, at any rate, managers of grant-in-aid schools in Ceylon do not appear to have much cause for complaint as regards financial encouragement to vernacular education.

(3) As regards C. schools:—C. schools are schools in outlying, sparsely populated, and neglected districts which are unable to fulfil the conditions of ordinary vernacular schools. No limit of attendance to qualify for examination for grant is required from them, neither are the numbers in the school required to be over 15 boys or 10 girls, and nevertheless their result payments of grant are paid at the highest rate allowed to vernacular schools.

These are the regulations as they now stand. But previous to 1st January, 1884, there was a capitation grant of Rs. 3 per scholar in addition to the result payment grant.

This capitation grant was abolished last January along with the capitation grants paid to ordinary schools, concerning which I had found that temptations to falsify registers existed, and I considered that education in Ceylon generally was far enough advanced to permit the abolition of capitation payments for mere attendances, and I believed that the time was come to pay only for work done as tested by the results of examinations. In this opinion I was supported by the views held by my immediate predecessors in office, while the Secretary of State had expressed an adverse opinion to such grants.

The question, however, is, whether I ought only to have recommended the abolition of capitation grants in *ordinary* schools, and whether some compensation for the loss of capitation grants should have been made to *C. schools*, as a special case, because these schools are of very low quality and cannot be expected to pass as many scholars as other vernacular schools.

As a special inducement to C. schools in the North-Central, Central, and North-Western Provinces, I am inclined to think that their *result payment* grant, *in those Provinces only*, should be doubled. But I would *not* advise restoring the *capitation* grant. Capitation grants are, to my mind, bad in principle. I have seen capitation classes sitting idle on the floor without an attempt to teach them, because their mere attendance meant a capitation grant. I am very sure that we should pay only for work done, that is to say, that grants should be only for results of examination.

At the same time, as a matter of finance, I cannot recommend the increased result payment to these schools so long as the state of the revenue of the Colony necessitates the present curtailing of the vote allowed me for grants-in-aid, but at the first opportunity I would ask for this indulgence to C. schools in order to give every chance for the spread of education by grant-in-aid managers in these particular districts, which I am unable to provide for by Government schools.

29. I desire, however, emphatically to point out, as I mentioned before, that the backward state of education in the Provinces alluded to by Mr. Langdon is in no way the result of the abolition of capitation grant, because that grant was only abolished on 1st January last, and Mr. Langdon's figures are taken from the Departmental Report of 1882, before the capitation grant was interfered with. And it is worthy of note that during 1883—(still before the capitation grant was interfered with)—I did not receive a single application for a school in the North-Central Province from any missionary body; in the Central Province I only received one, which, being for an *English* school at Gamppla, I declined; and for the neglected, *i.e.* the Sinhalese portions of the North-Western Province, I received not a single application, excepting one for an *English* school in the *town of Kurunégala*.

30. My own strong opinion is that nothing can be done in the way of opening successfully more schools in the North-Central Province by *grant-in-aid* managers until they can station a *resident European* at Anurádhapura. Schools at present opened struggle on, or are closed for lack of interest on the part of the people, or the teacher falls ill of fever. Constant personal supervision by an energetic resident European might rouse the people, but the present system of incidental visits cannot possibly do so.

Similarly I might write as regards our *Government* schools in this Province. I have already recorded my difficulties in my Administration Report of 1883 when I wrote

"I am much concerned about the education of this Province. On the one hand, the people do not "seem to care for it in the least degree, and on the other hand, when, after considerable persuasion, the "people have been roused into establishing a school, there is considerable difficulty in the matter of "teachers, because no natives of this Province have as yet been trained or certificated as teachers, and when "natives of other Provinces are sent as teachers they are too apt to get fever, grow discontented, and do 'more harm than good."

I have already been in communication with the Government Agent regarding relaxing all rules as to qualifications of teachers, and endeavouring to find some persons who are natives of the Province who may be able to teach even a little. But even if I succeed, I fear little will be done without a resident Inspector, which my funds will not permit of; and again, if I could station a resident Inspector there, there is the condition of the people to contend with, and concerning this I cannot do better than quote from the Message of His Excellency the Governor to the Legislative Council: "Education is good, but there is a material education due to physical improvements "which must precede learning. No advantage can attend a hasty attempt in the first place to "set down a school in some miserable fever-stricken village. First, clear the jungle,—make "the place accessible,—give it water,—teach the people how to live; when they have learned "that lesson, then let the schoolmaster commence his work."

Much the same remarks apply to those portions of the North-Western Province which are neglected. That portion which lies between Negombo and Chilaw is, however, by no means neglected.

31. The case of the Central Province, and particularly Uva, appears to me, however, to be somewhat different. In addition to such poverty of the people, and inaccessibleness, as exist, there is here a certain sturdy independence which says, with our own Border chief, quoted in the summary of the recommendations of the Indian Commission:—

"Thanks to Saint Bothan, son of mine,
Save Gawain, ne'er could pen a line."

And in view of this spirit I am inclined to think that pansala education—an *improved* pansala education—is the best for the primary education of the Kandyans, as a commencement at any rate.

Mr. Ashmore suggested to me the propriety of giving a grant to pansala schools, and the Indian Commission is strong upon the advisableness of aiding native indigenous schools; but in

the present state of my funds I am unable to move in this direction in spite of my strong personal desire to do so. Therefore, I should be most glad if the Government could act upon the suggestion contained in paragraph 28 of the Buddhist Temporalities Commission Report. That paragraph runs:—"The funds of each viháré should be devoted, first, to the maintenance of the "viháré and pansala; secondly, to making moderate provision for the incumbent; thirdly, to the "maintenance, where funds are sufficient, of a village school in connection with the viháré; and "surplus of vihára funds may be applied to the encouragement of Buddhist education in the "districts."

Mr. Ellâwala and Mr. Saunders also dwell upon the provision for education in their minutes of dissent attached to the report of the Commissioners.

Then there is the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee with regard to these funds being applied to education, which Mr. Langdon has quoted. At present there are, I believe, no such funds available, but, if matters could be placed by the Government on such a footing that funds might be forthcoming, I should wish to bring the pansala schools under a modified grant-in-aid system, and I believe that this would be the surest way of affording primary vernacular education to the Kandyans concerning whose condition Mr Langdon complains. Meanwhile, we must work as well as we can, utilising the influence of the several Government Agents, and using gentle pressure from the Gansabhâwas, as is already largely done.

Mr. Langdon's letter being an important one, I have obtained a report upon it from Mr. Blair, Inspector of Schools, which I annex.

I have, &c.,
H. W. GREEN,
Director.

No. 52.

Enclosure in No. 2.

REPORT of W. BLAIR, ESQ., Inspector of Schools.

IN this report I propose to deal as much as possible with facts, and to avoid all attempts at "fine writing." For easy reference I have numbered such paragraphs as I wish to reply to—A, B, C, &c.

A. The report of the "Indian Education Commission" is, doubtless, a most valuable document. I have now before me an abstract and an analysis of that Commission's report, and by letter to the Colonial Secretary, No. 365 of 23rd July, asked to be furnished with three copies of the full report. I admit most readily that the recommendations with regard to primary education might with advantage be adopted in Ceylon. I go further: there is much that is invaluable in the recommendations with regard to "indigenous schools," and which is admirably suited to the sparsely populated districts of the North-Central, Central, and Northern Provinces. In these sparsely populated districts we cannot hope to reach the children, except by recognizing and encouraging by a small grant outlying schools "if they serve any purpose of secular education whatever."

I have nothing to remark with regard to pages 2 and 3.

B. Mr. Langdon's remarks with regard to "cram" appear to me not quite correct. We all know that, in preparing for open competition examinations, the successful candidates are those who "cram" most. But to speak of a little boy "cramming" while he is learning his alphabet, to write letters, or to add and subtract numbers, or indeed any of the subjects required in primary schools, is absurd. Then, too, Mr. Langdon's statement with regard to the precautions taken to prevent cramming in England is not correct. (Here I am quoting from memory.) About the year 1846 grants were made by the Committee of Council for buildings and furniture, but the amount of these grants depended more on the amount raised locally than on efficiency of the schools. About 1862 Mr. Lowe's Code was introduced, abolishing grants for buildings, &c., and paying only for average attendance and results of examination.

The general principles enunciated by Mr. Langdon on page 4 (2) will not, I presume, be denied, but as a matter of fact the standards of the Revised Code are eminently well suited to the Tamil population of the North and the Sinhalese people of the South, and their adoption during the last 14 years has produced the most satisfactory results.

C. The first recommendation of the Indian Commission will, I think, commend itself to every person who knows anything about the subject, viz., that education should be in the vernacular. But long before the Indian Commission had been thought of, Mr. Bruce, in preparing a Code for Government schools (in 1879, decided to completely uproot the then existing system of Anglo-vernacular schools. His arguments are fully given in the Administration Reports for 1879 and 1880 and official Memoranda laid before Government, and the success of his scheme in Government schools has been complete and unquestionable.

There can, however, be no doubt that the education imparted in English schools is not such as will best fit the youth of this Colony for their position in life,—that boys who learn a little English leave their villages and too often become vagabonds or criminals. This evil will probably continue as long as a little knowledge of English carries with it a money value, and it seems to me that the only way to stop it is either to stop all grants to English schools, or inundate the country with English and make English (as it probably will be sooner or later) the language of the country.

D. I do not think the educated youth of Ceylon in their aversion to manual labour are different from the educated boys of other English-speaking countries—England, America, and Australia. In the two latter places I believe the evil is worse than in Ceylon.

Pages 7, 8, 9, call for no comment. I think the education in primary schools should be confined entirely to Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, and I see no reason why the majority of boys should not pass in standard V., the highest standard in a primary school, before he reaches the age of eleven years.

E. I do not know what authority Mr. Langdon has for stating "object lessons might be more generally brought into use." "I suspect they would be found to be very few indeed." His statements show very clearly that he has little or no knowledge of Government schools and their internal working. Every Normal student is required regularly to give object lessons while in training. His skill in teaching is judged by an object lesson. Provision is made for object lessons on the time tables of our best schools, and all pupil-teachers have annually to give object lessons in the presence of the Inspector. Further, a

special text-book containing 225 pages has been published in the vernacular by the Department. The book was printed two years ago, and from the very small sale it has had among grant-in-aid managers it is to be feared that most managers, unlike Mr. Langdon, do not appreciate the efforts of the Department in this direction.

Pages 11, 12, 13, call for no particular comment.

F. The "backward districts of Ceylon" and the sparsely populated localities as stated by Mr. Langdon cover an immense area, and I am of opinion their wants can never be fully met by the existing Codes. Mr. Bruce, in his Grant-in-aid Code, introduced a most liberal provision, giving an extra grant of Rs. 3 per scholar. But this by no means led to the extension of education in sparsely populated and neglected districts. On the contrary, applications were received from schools to be placed on the C. list from the Peninsula of Jaffna and others having a regular attendance of 35 or 40 scholars. The story of the goose and the golden eggs applies with singular significance to C. schools in Ceylon.

G. Recommendation No. 3 of the Indian Commission is doubtless excellent; but until the finances of the Colony are placed on a more satisfactory basis, it would be idle to expect a larger vote for education.

H. I differ entirely from Mr. Langdon in thinking that (of course excepting one or two schools such as St. Thomas' College and Wesley College) the effect of the working of the present Code has been to give a great impulse to middle and higher education. I do not propose to discuss the question, but to append to this report the examination papers of some of the students of ———— College in support of my statement. The statement that these subjects are taught without any great additional expense to Government, is only true when the teaching is bad and all the boys fail.

K. I cannot recommend grants for libraries. The eight or ten libraries now supported by a grant-in-aid are for the most part reading rooms supplied with light literature and pictorial periodicals, and patronized by those who can very well afford to subscribe to a self-supporting library. I do not of course wish to depreciate the value of school libraries, but I think the money at the disposal of the Department of Public Instruction could be better spent in establishing and maintaining schools in backward and neglected districts. Neither can I recommend grants of schools furniture and apparatus. The grants-in-aid to efficient schools are most liberal.

L. Recommendation 10 with regard to fees is, I think, a good one, but it is hopeless to expect the managers to co-operate with Government in fixing a scale of fees. Only last week, and before I knew of the existence of this letter, I wrote to the Director of Public Instruction recommending that in grant-in-aid English schools fees be made compulsory. My reason for this was that the manager of the Wesleyan school at Mátara, by charging less than 10 cents per scholar on the average, had completely ruined the Government school where the fees are fixed by law at Rs. 1·25 and Rs. 1, and almost ruined the S. P. G. school which was trying to adopt the same rates. English education is much too cheap in Ceylon, but no Mission has done so much to cheapen it as the Wesleyan Mission. Mr. Langdon refers to the manager of the Richmond College complaining that he could not collect fees for the holidays because fees were not collected in the Government school. Now, I find on reference to the accounts of the Galle Central school, that the amount collected last year was Rs. 2,500, or a little more than Rs. 11 on the average, while at Richmond College, Galle, the amount collected was Rs. 2,280, or about Rs. 9·60 per scholar. A much greater difference will be found if a comparison be instituted between the Royal College and Wesley College, Colombo.

Pages 19 and 20 call for no special comment.

M. It appears to me that it would be very unwise to extend the number of specific subjects from two to four, or even to three, for the simple reason that boys of ordinary ability cannot prepare the class subjects and two specific subjects. It may possibly be remembered that when the Revised Code was being discussed, it was the almost universal complaint of managers that the step from Standard V. to VI. was too great for one year. Mr. Bruce, I remember, turned their own argument against them with deadly effect when they afterwards asked for three specific subjects. Now Mr. Langdon asks for *four*—which is absurd.

Mr. Langdon also complains that the grants have been changed from Rs. 4 for each stage, to Rs. 2, Rs. 4, Rs 6, for stages 1, 2, 3, respectively. I am entirely responsible for making this recommendation to Government, but Mr. Langdon and his brother missionaries are responsible for forcing me to do it. The Kandy girls' school, of which Mr. Langdon is the manager, in the year 1881 presented scholars in the specific subjects "Light and Heat" and in "Electricity" &c., stage I. In 1882 these girls were not advanced to stage II of those subjects, but presented in stage I. of Mechanics and Mathematics. A very similar course was adopted in the Wesley College, Colombo, and of course the natural inference is that the object was not the good of the scholars, but a grant from Government. None were greater sinners than the Wesleyan Mission in this respect, and none have complained so bitterly at the change.

Mr. Langdon quotes a letter from Bishop Boujean, stating that "the rates of grants are conspicuously lower than in India and other places." I do not know about the other places, but our grants are more than double those obtainable in India for elementary or primary education. I shall be very glad to see Agriculture added to the list of "specific," or perhaps what would be better, to the list of "class" subjects. Domestic economy would doubtless be an advantage, and it might be well if it were added. But some consideration should be shown to the Inspectors, who are often placed in uncomfortable positions by having to report on needlework,—an art which they have never practised,—applied to garments they have never worn. I pass over the remarks with regard to the establishment of a University for Ceylon having the power to confer degrees, because, in my opinion, the Colony is not ripe for one, and one, is not generally desired. It always appeared to me that the examinations of the Madras University would have been more suited to our requirements than the Cambridge Local Examinations on the ground that the Tamil language always forms part of the examination, and papers would have been set in Sinhalese had there been a sufficient number of candidates. Change is very much to be deprecated, as a rule, but I am sure that this change would result in many advantages.

Female Education.

O. With recommendations of the Indian Commission 1 and 2 I agree entirely. With the third recommendation, the practice of making the examinations easier and the rates higher than in boys' schools, we have always acted, but the trouble is, good girls' schools invariably produce quite as satisfactory results as the best boys' schools. At Béruwala Roman Catholic school the other day the Assistant Inspector informed me that the number of correct answers in arithmetic was 73 out of a possible 76; and the Female Seminary, Colombo, always produces quite as satisfactory results as Wesley College or Richmond College; and Mr. Langdon's high school in Kandy obtains a higher grant per head than Trinity College. We are, I

believe, very much in advance of India in respect of girls' schools, and I think it is to be regretted that Mr. Langdon should not have taken the trouble to be accurate in his statements.

With regard to the rates of passes: in standard I. the maximum grant in a vernacular boys' school is R. 4 50, in a girls' it is Rs. 6; for standard VIII. in an English the maximum grant for boys' is Rs. 20, for girls' it is Rs 24; and so on in every standard, English or vernacular, the maximum grant is either 16, 20 or 25 per cent. more for girls than for boys, and in girls' boarding schools the rates are doubled, amounting in some cases to Rs. 32 per scholar—a sum which goes a long way towards paying the cost of board, lodging and tuition.

Mr. Langdon's remarks about the "hereditary incapacity of girls," so far as my own experience goes, are not correct, and are fully disproved by the excellent results of the female teachers' certificate examinations. At the last examination for men and women (English) with the same questions, four women out of five passed, and one man out of sixteen passed.

If Mr. Langdon will refer to Sessional Paper No. 31 of 1881, he will find we make a great difference in the stringency of examinations of boys and girls.

The educational progress during the last five years in numbers and in efficiency is most encouraging and satisfactory. Mr. Langdon complains of the difficulty and the stringency of the requirements in needlework. The standards were furnished by a lady (belonging to his own mission) at the head of *the* largest boarding school in the Island.

P. I have already expressed my opinion with regard to religious instruction in schools and with regard to a conscience clause. Those opinions being altogether different from those held by the great majority of educationists, I will not intrude them.

We have done much in the preparation of books and maps during the last five years, and we should have done much more if we had had more money. I shall be very glad to see the Sanitary Primer introduced. I fully appreciate "Thrift," and four years ago I should have been glad to have seen School Savings Banks established. There is not so much necessity for them now as the Government has established Post Office Savings Banks. Any one who knows anything of the condition of the people in the interior of the Island, who has travelled as I have from Point Pedro to Mullaittivu, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, and Tirikovil, who has visited the sparsely populated districts of the North-Central and the North-Western Provinces, knows the people are half starving, and few of them get enough food, and still fewer ever see or handle money, and that Savings Banks in these districts would be a mockery.

Q. With regard to the question of certificates, I think the rule might with advantage be extended to grant-in-aid English schools, when such schools are not under the direct supervision of a European or American missionary or a graduate of a recognized University in the United Kingdom or in America. In Government schools we have no difficulty in supplying certificated teachers as the old uncertificated teachers retire or are discontinued. In fact, there is a large number of certificated teachers waiting for employment. The total number of persons holding the certificate of the Department are: Grant-in-aid 607, Government 347; and these numbers after the next examination to be held in two months will probably be increased by 100. We might perhaps extend the time referred to in clause 50 of the Revised Code from 1884 to 1886.

R. The chapter of Mr. Langdon's letter dealing with the provincial distribution of the schools is very interesting, and it shows that much remains to be done. But during the last 15 years much has been done. In 1870 the total number of schools was 385; in 1884 that number has increased to 1,293. In 1870 the number of scholars was 16,927; in 1884 that number has increased to 89,400. This increase appears to me to afford real cause for congratulation. But still the backward state of education in the North-Central Province and parts of other Provinces has received some attention. Writing 18 months ago, I stated:—

"104. It was shown in the table which follows paragraph 10, that the proportion of the population "under instruction in this Province was only 1 in 222, and in table 13 that there was a small decrease in "the number of schools and scholars compared with the returns for the previous years, and I am afraid we "cannot at present hope for much educational progress. According to the last Census returns, the population "of Anurádhapura, the capital, is only 1,300; there are only three villages containing more than 300 people, "and only nineteen containing more than 200, in the whole Province. In addition to this, the people are, "generally speaking, in a state of the most extreme and abject poverty, and more than half of the time of "their children is spent in the jungle looking for food. I have, however, called the attention of the Inspector "to the small number of children under instruction, and requested him to inform me if there are any localities "in which flourishing schools may be established."—[Administration Report, 1882.]

I do not want to conceal the fact that education is, and has been, very much neglected in the districts under reference, but still it is not so bad as Mr. Langdon's figures would make it. No mention is made of the number attending private schools in Mr. Langdon's statistics or of the number receiving private instruction at home. If these numbers had been included, the number receiving instruction would have been as many per hundred as Mr. Langdon gives per thousand.

Mr. Langdon's suggestion, page 41, is really of great value, viz., that in dealing with these neglected districts liberal inducements be given to voluntary efforts, and pressure be put on village headmen and Gansabhawas. The Gansabháwas in the Southern Province and the Kalutara District of the Western Province have done, and are doing, good which is incalculable.

WM. BLAIR,
Inspector of Schools.

17th September, 1884.

Examination Papers referred to.

STAGE I.

I.—*A fluid* Such as a piece of iron or a piece of wood ressist any attempt to alter its shape or its size, always keeping the same size or volium unless it be violently destroyed.

A Liquid. Such as water when kept in a bottle or in other vessel, always spread itself so as to make it surface level (water).

A gas has no surface. I can put any quantity of gas into any vesel; the gas will fill the whole vessel (as hitrogin).

Mortion. When a body constantly change its position or its place, it is said to be in mortion (as a canan ball).

Gravity. That force which the earth exehts is call gravity (if there is no gravity a coconut will not fall to the ground).

Cohesion is that force which binds together the various particles of a body.

Force. That which changes the state of a body is called force, wither that state be one of rest or of mortion.

II.—(*a.*) Solids, Liquids and gases.

(*b.*) The moste cohesion is in solids and least is in gases.

(*c.*) Take some mercury into a flat glass and threash it by another and after a little while take the top glass plate away, the mercury will return to its former position, that is it will like globles. Again take some water and pour it on a oily or grasy surface, than the water will become not so much globles as mercury but little globles or circule.

VI.—Take a bottle, fill it with air and then cork it very tightly and take it to the sea, and than put the bottle under water, than you will find the cork will go inside the bottle, but it will not go inside the bottle in the deep of 10 feet but it will go under the bottle in 100 feet.

VII.—When we rubed two things together for a short time I know that heat is produce because it is hot. Because if there is no friction the air going in and the air coming out always rubbed each other, but if there is no friction there would be no heat in man's body, therefore we cannot live if there is no friction.

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(1) A *Liquid* like water when kept in a bottle or other vessel always spread itself out so as to make its surface; but yet always keep its proper size or volume.

The Gases. If you put a quantity of any gas into a perfectly empty vessel; the gas will fill the whole vessel. Nor does a gas violently as a liquid upon occuping a certain space.

Motion. Let us suppose that we go out of doors and walk anang the strait road often two or three hours ; and always at the same place ; and that in two hours we have got eight miles beond it, in fact that which changes the body is called force; whether that state be an motion.

Gravity. Let us take this irregular sheet of iron and hang it up by a thread, you see it hangs in a particular way, and you also see that the line already drown with point in the sheet is in the same direction of the thread.

Cohesion. The Solid bodies such as wood stone metals so on. It is often very difficult to break a substance to pieces or powder it or alter its shape or size in any way; now that force bind together various particles of a body is called cohesion.

(2) Friction is did not use cohesion.

(3) *Friction.* If we put a very heavy weight on the table, it will require a very strong force to move it among but on the table were of marble and not wood, then a 'much less force would make the weight; while of the weight were on a sheet of ice it will move with a still smaller force. Now the force which makes it called the force of Friction.

If there were no friction we would find our furniture some on the floor some on the roof. We also can walk on the roof as easily as on the floor.

STAGE II.

(5) The specific gravity of a body is its weight with regard to water (bulk to bulk.)

Water is taken as the standard. Cork is lighter than water and so the specific gravity of cork will be less jak. ' If you put a jak into the water the bulk of water which the jak sends out will be the true weight of the jak (bulk for bulk.)

Iron a metal the specific gravity of iron will be the quantity of water which it requires to be kept up Gold is 19 times heavier than water ; mercury is heavier than water.

(6) At 100 ft. the preasure is greater becasue the air on the top of the water will keep it pressing down and so the preasure at 10 ft. is not so great as the 100 because the water is also more on the top and keeps the water at 100 ft. also pressing down.

(7) The Barometer is used to indicate the true temperature. It is constructed like the therometer with a bulk blown at the bottom and a fine tube. In the bulk you put some mercury and if you place it so that the mercury in the tube may get heated the mercury will rise, to ascertain height in the tube and thin mark in the index of the barometer. In the index the numbers are marked so you can say at once by looking at the index of the barometer what temperature the water would be.

(8) As the pressure is so much the water will rise. [Here follows a sketch.]

There is a piece, fixed in the end of the rod A. so the force by which the rod A. moves the water at the bottom begins to move by the currents of air which come from the top and so when the pump is lowerd the current of air which comes from the bottom will bring with it a current of water and so comes to the top and the greater the pressure of the air to the top the more higher the water will rise.

Essay on the Manufacture and uses of Cocoanut Oil.

Almost all the people of this country use cocoanut oil in lightening their lamps. Some people use to live in making cocoanut oil, and selling them to others. Large quantities of this is exported to different countries.

After the introduction of Rockoil, it is very rarely that the people use cocoanut oil in lightening their lamps. Even the interior people use to take this oil to their houses because it is very cheap.

The singhalese people use cocoanut oil in rubbing on their heads, thinking that its is very healthy.

Algebra.

(1) $6 \times 6 + 2 \times 4 \times 4 = 4 \times 4 \times 4 + 4 = 2 \times 6 \times 4 + 4 \times 2 + 6 \times 2 - 10 =$
$36 + 32 = 64 + 4 = 48 + 8 + 12 - 10 =$
$68 = 68 = 68 - 10$
$68 = 68 = 58$
$34 = 34 = 29$ Answer I.

(2) $(21a - 14b + 28c) - (6a + 15b - 21d) - (18a - 4b + 8c) =$
take $(6a + 6d) - (4a + 8c) - 7a - 14b + 28c - 7d) =$
$21a - 14b + 28c - 6a + 15b - 21d - 18a - 4b + 8c$
$6a + 28c - 7a - 14b$

Euclid I., Prop. 2.

From a given point to draw a straight line perpendicular to a given straight line.

Let E be the given point [here follows a diagram] ; it is required to draw a straight line equal to a given straight line, let the straight line DE. From the point E draw the straight line DHF. Again from the point E draw the straight line DHM meeting H at EK and G at EL. Because the point E is the centre of the circle DHF. And from the centre D at the distance DE describe the circle DHM.

Therefore DHE shall be the equaliteral triangle.

Therefore FE is equal to ED. And EG to DH.

No. 3.

LETTER FROM THE RIGHT REV. BISHOP BONJEAN TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Kotahéna, Colombo,
October 24th, 1884.

Hon'ble Sir,—Availing myself of Your Excellency's kind permission, I have the honour herewith to submit for your consideration a statement of my views in connection with the Ordinance now before the Legislative Council "to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English language is taught."

I can only repeat here what I had the honour to state in my last interview with Your Excellency, that I look to the proposed Ordinance with much apprehension, as sure in the present to affect injuriously our best English educational establishments in Ceylon, and as likely to render their existence precarious in the future.

Trusting that our just rights are perfectly safe in Your Excellency's hands, I look confidently forward to a final decision of this matter that will set my fears at rest, and enable myself and coöperators to go on with our work with undiminished vigour.

I have, &c.,

CHR. BONJEAN, O.M.I.,
Bishop Tit. of Medea, Vicar Ap. of Colombo.

Enclosure in No. 3.

STATEMENT of Objections against the proposed Ordinance "to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English language is taught," by Chr. Bonjean, Bishop of Medea, Vicar Apostolic.

Statement of the Case.

Section 2 of the proposed Ordinance makes it lawful for Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to maintain schools in which the English language is taught, and to pay the salaries of the teachers and the other necessary expenses of such schools, provided such schools be within the limits of their jurisdiction.

Section 3 provides that the expenses so to be paid shall be raised by a local rate.

Section 4 enacts that any rate for this purpose shall be levied in the same manner and *subject to the same conditions* as those on which a Municipal Council or Local Board of Health is authorized to make and assess any rate or rates under the provisions of section 53 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1865.

Section 53 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1865 authorizes any Municipal Council from time to time, and so often as it shall think necessary, to make and assess, with the sanction of the Governor and Executive Council, any rate or rates on the annual value of *all* houses and buildings *of every description* and all lands and tenements *whatsoever* within the Municipality, such rate or rates to endure for any period not exceeding twelve months," "subject to the provisions" that "such rates in the aggregate shall not exceed the sum necessary for the maintenance of the police for the town," and shall be no "less than two shillings a year," which is declared "the minimum rate payable on any house, building, land or tenement;" and "all buildings appropriated to religious worship" are "exempted from the payment of such rate."

Hence, the inference seems legitimate that, after the passing of the proposed Ordinance, all landed and house property, including on one hand, all buildings appropriated to *educational* purposes (since these are not excepted), and on the other hand the most wretched dwelling-places and the smallest plots of even unproductive land on which the poorest among the poor may have found a shelter for himself and family, shall be liable to an assessment of two shillings—that is,

more than one rupee a year—for the maintenance of any English or Anglo-vernacular school or schools which any Municipal Council or Local Board of Health shall, "either now or *hereafter*," consider it advisable to maintain within the limits of their jurisdiction, for the benefit of the well-to-do portion of the community, who alone can have an interest in the creation of such schools or derive any benefit from them, any amount of conscientious objections which any number of tax-payers may entertain to the teaching imparted in such institutions, notwithstanding. It would be interesting to know what this English educational rate will in the aggregate amount to in towns such as Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, since its minimum in each individual case is immutably fixed by the Ordinance; for, it is subject to the same conditions as the Police rate in section 53 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1865, and one of these conditions is that the rate shall in no case be "less than two shillings." The amount of money thus placed at the disposal of the Municipalities must be expected to be enormous.

It would likewise be most useful to know the number of the people not caring for, not requiring, and in fact not giving instruction in English to their children, and also the number of persons disapproving of the religious or moral tone of the instruction given in those Municipal schools, on whom nevertheless the proposed rate will fall.

It does not appear that the Municipalities and Local Boards of Health are to be bound by the two-miles-distance-rule in section 12 of the Code for Aided Schools; in the case of female schools they will be quite unfettered. So, Municipal schools whenever started as rivals to voluntary schools may be erected in the closest and most inconvenient proximity to the latter.

Foreseen Effects of the proposed Ordinance.

If the foregoing estimate of the true bearings of the proposed Ordinance is correct, it follows that instruction in the English language is considered as something essential to the general welfare of communities living in towns; for, a rate pressing on all would not be imposed for the exclusive benefit of a few. But, no one will contend that the knowledge of English is anything but a luxury, and it is well known that Government does not consider it in any other light. If then it be a mere accomplishment, let them pay for it who require it.

On the same level with the unfairness of taxing people for what they need not, and which cannot even indirectly benefit them, must be placed that of making them to pay twice over for the things they require. However, this also must be the unavoidable outcome of this Ordinance, if not thoroughly amended.

For, leaving aside the infidel populations whom, whether Hindus or Buddhists, their eagerness in availing themselves of all schools of whatever description or religious character have shown not to entertain any scruples of conscience that way, all earnest Christians, of whatever denomination, have conscientious objection to that sort of teaching from which all religion is excluded, but which is the only one the Municipal schools will be at liberty to provide, and they have shown the sincerity of their opposition by maintaining, at a great cost of labour and money, numerous schools of all grades and of undoubted efficiency. Now, the outcome of the proposed Ordinance as it will affect those, whether nominally Christian or otherwise, who care not for the religious education of their children, and those who do, will be that the former, by far the largest and the wealthiest, will have to pay the Municipal tax and no more, whilst the latter will have to pay twice, first for the schools that enjoy their full confidence, and next for those the teaching of which they reprove, and of which they cannot avail themselves. Surely, this result cannot have been contemplated when the Ordinance in question was framed

But the case is, in fact, far worse.

For, those Municipal schools having the rates at their disposal, will spend them freely in large spacious palace-like school-buildings, in costly furniture, appliances and instruments, in large salaries to masters, etc., etc., and so will easily secure to themselves superiority over all the separate schools, and soon drive these out of the field.

So that, in addition to the conscientious Christian having to pay a two-fold educational tax for the training of his own and other people's children, he would have to pay for the starting and maintenance of *hostile schools*, against which it were hopeless for the schools of his choice to attempt any sort of competition. Who has ever been asked to subsidize his adversaries?

It must be added, that the grievance will be more seriously felt by the Catholics than by the members of other denominations: first, because they are poorer; second, because all the weight of maintaining their schools falls upon them, which is not the case with other Christian bodies whose religious wants are largely supplied by opulent Missionary Societies at home; third, because they are considerably more numerous than all the other denominations taken together, so that the incidence of the rate will be felt by a much larger number of individual persons. It may be here remarked that their mere numerical superiority will not act in the way of lessening the charges incumbent on them, as they have to maintain a proportionate number of schools.

Objections answered.

Here, two objections have to be noticed:—First, it is said that it is hoped that Municipalities and Local Boards of Health are likely to hesitate before they undertake, in addition to their already multifarious duties, the charge of schools also. If so, the Ordinance is at least a useless piece of legislation; but it is not so.

Municipal bodies can be deterred from accepting a privilege that will greatly increase their influence and power only from one of these two reasons:—1st, because of the financial burthen annexed to the privilege—and the Ordinance removes that objection; 2nd, owing to the difficulty of securing the services of a competent teaching staff; but then it is in the power of money to secure that also. They will be able to engage the co-operation of lay or clerical educational bodies, either at home or here, and, if they do the latter—one fails to see how they could be legally prevented

from doing it—their prospects will be well assured, and they will be in a position to sweep away everything before them ; but then, an undue advantage in the race of education will accrue to the religious body here which shall have secured the bargain.

It is alleged, in the second place, that the Ordinance does in effect do nothing more than to offer to the people in the persons of their representatives, the members of the communal bodies, the choice of accepting or declining the charge of those English schools which the Government gives up as too onerous to the Public Treasury. That were true enough if Municipalities and Local Boards of Health in Ceylon represented in reality the populations; but nothing can be more contrary to fact than such a supposition.

Elections in Ceylon are, as a rule—nowhere more so than in Colombo—the result of manœuvres which this is not the place to qualify. Councillors do not generally consider themselves as in any way bound to consult the wishes and interests of the people, and the people do certainly not look upon them as their friends and the guardians of their rights So that the decision at which those bodies may come in this matter can in no wise be considered as a true exponent of the wishes of the general community ; and, it may be added, that although the Catholic element in Colombo is really considerable, Catholic voters are too much scattered over the different Wards to command in any Ward the *return* of members favourable to their views.

Remedies proposed.

It is the duty of any man who criticizes a measure, not only to show up the evils which, in his opinion, will attend that measure, but also to suggest proper remedies to the evils he anticipates ; and to that task the present memorial must now address itself.

Choice can be made between the three following proposals, each of which would more or less fully, but perhaps sufficiently, meet the objections above adduced.

First proposal.—If Government are resolved to give up their English and Anglo-vernacular schools, the more obvious and the best way to do it would be to leave it to the free competition of educational bodies already in the field and to private efforts to supply the place of the school so given up.

If there is any class of the community requiring the continuance of those schools, the work is sure to be taken up by agencies equal to the task. But it were highly objectionable to interfere with the freedom of competition, by offering to any one of the competing parties, be it a lay or missionary corporation, a Municipal assembly or a private agency, material or other advantages denied to others.

Second proposal.—If Government are irrevocably committed to the transfer of their English schools to Municipal corporations,—if they think themselves under a necessity to go forwards, regardless of the risks attending the introduction here of an educational rate- (for the consequences of this are sure to be momentous and far-reaching) - let the measure be so surrounded with safe-guards as to prevent the possibility of its becoming, at any less or more remote time, a means of oppression or a weapon against just rights. This would be attained by an enactment exempting from the payment of the rate all members of a community already provided with English-teaching schools, using and supporting such schools, or rather all members of the general community not using the Municipal English-teaching schools.

Third proposal. But, if it be insisted upon that the tax must be paid by all land or house owners within the limits of a Municipality or Local Board, then could not a system analogous to that obtaining in Canada, under the designations of "Protestant Separate Schools," "Roman Catholic Separate Schools," "Coloured people's Separate Schools," be inaugurated here also, with, of course, such modifications as local circumstances might render necessary.

That system is briefly this :—

Upon the application of a certain number of heads of families resident in a township, city, town, or incorporated village, that they intend to establish, support, and use a separate school for their children, the Municipal Council is bound to authorize the establishment of such schools, for which trustees, having the same rights and duties as the trustees of Municipal schools, are appointed under the title of: "The Board of Trustees of the Protestant" or "of the Roman Catholic Separate Schools," as the case may be, "for the city, town, village of..... ;" such trustees having the power to impose, levy, and collect school rates or subscriptions upon and from persons sending children, or subscribing towards the support of such schools.

The adoption here of that system would remove all objections of a religious nature, and would be accepted by the Roman Catholics here, although it must be confessed that it would operate injuriously in the case of such parents as do not require any English instruction for their children.

CHR. BONJEAN, O.M.I.,
Bp. Tit. of Medea, Vicar Ap of Colombo.

Colombo, 23rd October, 1884.

P.S.—As the proposed rate is to be directly levied for a definite object, viz., the maintenance of schools from which all religious teaching is for the present excluded on principle, and which, in the natural course of things, may become thoroughly un-Christian, the lawfulness of the payment of that rate may become the object of conscientious scruples to which it is advisable not to give occasion.

CHR. B.

No. 4.

No. 427. Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 7th September, 1884.

EXTRACT from Letter from the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY to the DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

SIR,—

* * * * * *

I am at the same time to inform you that a supplementary vote will not in future years be sanctioned for grants-in-aid, and that you should distinctly understand, and make the managers distinctly understand, that grants can be paid only so far as there is money on the vote to pay for them. His Excellency will be glad to receive your suggestion, how, in the event of the vote again falling short, the payments on account of grants-in-aid can be adjusted so as to prevent the whole loss falling on particular schools.

* * * * * *

I am, &c.,

R. H. SINCLAIR,
for Colonial Secretary.

No. 5.

EXTRACT from Letter from the DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY in reply.

No. 490. Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 14th October, 1884.

SIR,—

* * * * * *

As regards paragraph 3 of your letter, I have the honor to note that a supplementary vote will not in future be allowed for grants-in-aid.

It is, however, due to myself to note that since 1878 the vote for grants-in-aid has always been exceeded.

	Rs.	Rs.
In 1879 the vote was	150,000, the expenditure	161,926
1880	150,000	198,019
1881	175,000	183,670
1882	175,000	181,722
1883	165,000	168,747

I hope, however, to be able to keep within the amount asked for in my Estimates for 1885, if the Government will sanction one additional amendment to the Code for 1885, and that is, to pay English schools grants at the same rates as vernacular schools. At present they are paid somewhat higher.

It will not be possible, with the rapidly increasing efficiency of grants-in-aid schools, which increase of efficiency means increase of result payments, to keep within our present limits while grants are paid at the present rates.

Neither will it be fair to touch the vernacular school grants, more especially as only this year they have lost their capitation grants.

But, as the Government has often been advised by me, there are many very harmful weak English grant schools. I think therefore that a reduction in the rate of grants paid to English schools will be the fairest economy to practice; and I hope it may not only be an economy, but that it may starve out some of the weak English schools, or convert them into vernacular schools.

* * * * *

I am, &c.,

H. W. GREEN,
Director.

No. 6.

LETTER from the Rev. JOHN SCOTT, Chairman, Wesleyan Mission, South Ceylon, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Wesleyan Mission House,
Kollupitiya, 8th November, 1884.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to request that you will favour me by laying before His Excellency the Governor the following remarks on the proposed transfer of English schools to Municipalities and Local Boards. I venture to do this, first, because the Mission I represent pays rates for property held in several of the towns affected by the proposed Ordinance; and, secondly, because the Mission has for many years paid large sums for education in these towns.

2. I trust it will not be supposed that I am opposed to the policy of giving up Government English schools in the towns or to the legitimate extension of self-government; but I would suggest that it would be desirable not to hand over all control of English education to local bodies without restriction or condition. I submit that it would be proper to add to clause 4 of the proposed Ordinance words limiting the amount of the rate to be collected for education to (say) a quarter, or at the utmost half per cent. on the assessed annual value of property, as a check upon any tendency to extravagance.

3. For the same reason, and also to afford a guarantee of the soundness of the education imparted, and for the protection of grant schools already established, I think a clause ought to be added making it obligatory that all schools connected with Boards or Councils should be examined

every year by the Inspectors of the Department of Public Instruction according to the standards and regulations of the Code, and that it should not be legal to apply for the salaries of the teachers (maintenance of buildings and supply of school furniture being excepted) a larger sum than the grant-in-aid for such schools according to the Code would amount to. Such a provision would necessitate the regular payment of a fair amount of fees, a matter important for the reasons above alluded to and equitable in itself, since English education being of money value to the recipients ought to be paid for, especially since in large towns children from outlying districts attend the English schools, and certainly have no claim to be educated at the cost of the town ratepayers. The proposal would also utilize the experience gained by the Department of Public Instruction; without it, we may have a diverse system of education in every town in the Island.

4. I take the liberty of troubling His Excellency with one more suggestion, which seems to me to be indispensable under present circumstances. It is that in the event of any proposal being made by any Council or Local Board to establish a new school or to transfer any existing school to the management of any religious body or private person, such proposal must be announced in the *Government Gazette* (as is at present the case regarding applications laid before the Department of Public Instruction), and that after a specified date all correspondence on the subject must be laid before His Excellency the Governor, without whose sanction the proposal could not be carried into effect.

5. Such a provision would prevent injury to an existing grant school by the opening of a new Municipal or Local Board school in the immediate neighbourhood of a grant school, and would prevent such an outbreak of sectarianism as has lately occurred in the Municipal Council at Galle, where a large subsidy out of the rates has been promised to the Bishop of Colombo for taking over the Government boys' school; while an application on the part of the Rev. S. R. Wilkin of this Mission to take over the girls' school has been treated with contempt, and not even a reply received. This incident clearly shows the danger which may arise, especially in outstations where the influence of the official Chairman is great, of allowing Local Boards to act as they please and without control with reference to the schools.

6. Should it be objected that restrictions such as I have recommended would interfere unduly with the freedom of action of the Councils and Boards, I would submit in reply:—

(1) That certain members of such bodies are Government officials, who are under no responsibility to the electors, and that it would be unreasonable that they should not be accountable to the Government for their proceedings.

(2) That it cannot be contended that such bodies in Ceylon, elected for general municipal purposes, should be subjected to fewer restrictions than the School Boards in England, which are formed only when the Education Department reports that a Board is necessary, the members of which are elected for the special purpose of attending to education, and by a cumulative vote so that the rights of minorities may be respected, and the proceedings of which as to the establishment and transfer of schools have (I believe) to receive the sanction of the Education Department.

(3) That the educational proceedings of Municipal bodies in India are under the control of the Government. For example, the Municipal Council of Negapatam has just been reprimanded by the Governor in Council at Madras, and its proceedings overruled, with reference to a decision respecting a school managed by the Wesleyan Mission.

(4) That as the acts of the Legislative and Executive Councils are subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, there can be no discredit to a local governing body in being responsible to Her Majesty's representative in so important a matter as education.

(5) That as the general bye-laws of such bodies are not valid till they receive the sanction of the Governor, it is unreasonable that His Excellency should have no power to regulate their educational arrangements.

7. I would further observe that in Ceylon, where the population consists of many different races, with a still greater variety of religious professions, the only security for fair and impartial treatment is the power of appealing to the justice and wisdom of His Excellency the Governor, and I earnestly beg that His Excellency will not consent to be deprived of the right of control over the higher public education in the chief centres of population.

8. On the general subject of English education, I trust His Excellency the Governor will reconsider the proposed diminution of grants to aided schools. Managers have already borne a large share of the reduction rendered necessary by the state of the revenue in the abolishing of capitation grants; and I most respectfully submit that it would be hard on them to endure a further reduction for English schools. Financial responsibilities have been undertaken by managers in reliance on the permanence of Government aid; and while large sums are raised in fees for those schools, a further increase in the amount from fees is scarcely to be looked for, and in the case of girls' schools would be impossible.

9. I would point out the advantage of an English education in the enlightenment of the people by opening to them the inexhaustible treasures of English literature, in strong contrast with the meagre intellectual food afforded by vernacular books. This last consideration renders highly problematical the advantages looked for by many persons from vernacular education.

10. I observe from the last report of the Director of Public Instruction that in 1883 the nett cost of 2,156 scholars in Government schools was Rs. 69,286·07 or Rs. 32·13 a head, while for 8,533 scholars in Aided English the cost to Government was Rs. 49,005·51 or Rs. 5·74 a head. Although the proposed transfer to the Local Boards will relieve the Government of a considerable burden, I venture to think that while the Royal College is allowed to remain a burden upon the public funds for the benefit of that class in the community which least requires assistance, it is scarcely fair or consistent to deprive those educating agencies which effect the greatest work at the least cost, of any part of the small sum now allotted to them. The Director, it is true, remarks severely on certain inefficient English schools "in villages and outlying districts" (p. 5). I

am glad to be able to assure His Excellency the Governor that this remark does not apply to the schools of this Mission. Our schools in Colombo, Kandy, and Galle are thoroughly efficient, and have passed excellent examinations; and those in the towns of Negombo, Kalutara, and Mátara (Palhimulla) are under careful supervision and show good results.

I trust the length of this communication may be excused on account of the great importance of the subject.

I am, &c.,

JOHN SCOTT,
Chairman and General Superintendent of the
Wesleyan Mission, South Ceylon District.

No. 7.

LETTER from the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY to the Rev. J. SCOTT, in reply.

Colombo, 19th November, 1884.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter of the 8th instant, I am directed to acquaint you that the question of the imposition of rates for the maintenance of the English-teaching schools is now under the consideration of the Legislative Council, and is as yet by no means finally determined on.

I am also directed to inform you that full and careful consideration will be given to your suggestion as to the precautions necessary in regard to the establishment of new schools.

As regards grants in aid of English-teaching schools, the Government cannot withdraw from the policy explained in the papers laid before the Legislative Council on the 12th instant, and in other papers now being printed for the information of the Council.

I have, &c.,

R. H. SINCLAIR,
for Colonial Secretary.

No. 8.

RESOLUTION passed at a Public Meeting of the Residents of Puttalam.

"That the Local Board do take over the Government schools from the 1st January next, raising the fees, if necessary, and giving a grant from its present local funds without additional taxation."

No. 9.

INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTORS.

THE following instructions to Inspectors, which have received the sanction of the Governor in Executive Council, are published for general information, and will have effect from 1st January next:—

Circular to Inspectors.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to inform you that, being much impressed with the bad English taught in certain English schools under native teachers, I addressed the Government on the subject, proposing that no English school should, after a certain period, be accepted for a grant-in-aid, unless the principal teacher held a certificate of competency to teach English.

2. The Government, however, has decided that until the consent of the Managers of schools to the compulsory employment of certificated teachers has been more clearly ascertained, it is desirable not to enforce a system of certificates, and that the present system of judging only by results should be maintained; but it is added, "the examination of the schools should be "carefully conducted and the standards prescribed strictly enforced, and if the result be, as may "be anticipated, to diminish the grants earned, the Managers will then doubtless consult their "own interest by employing a better class of teachers than they generally do at present."

3. It is therefore to be understood by you that, in the *vivâ voce* portions of examinations of English schools, you will adhere strictly to the standards laid down, and that a weak English school in a small town or village is not to be any more leniently examined than an efficient high school in a central town.

As regards paper work in standards above the V., the examination should be conducted as far as possible on paper, and, in order to secure uniformity of examination throughout the Island, complete sets of questions will be prepared in this office, and transmitted to you every month.

You will therefore be good enough to send in to me at once a special list showing the dates of examination of each of the grant-in-aid English schools in your district during next year, so that the papers above referred to may be prepared by me in time.

I am, &c.,

H. W. GREEN,
Director.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 3rd November, 1884.

No. 10.

INSTRUCTIONS TO INSPECTORS.

THE following Circular to Inspectors, which has received the sanction of the Governor in Executive Council, is published for general information :—

Circular to Inspectors.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 31st October, 1884.

SIR,—A CASE has been brought to my notice where some boys who had previously been examined in the first and second stage of Arithmetic and Geography in a Vernacular school, were again presented in the same subjects and in the same standards in an English school.

2. It is against the whole spirit of clause 31*c* of the Revised Code that a child should earn a grant twice in the same standard and in the same subject.

3. In the case in point, it was urged that these subjects, being taught in different languages, were different subjects; but Arithmetic and Geography are the same subjects, in whatever language taught, and no marks are awarded for proficiency in the language in these subjects, but correctly worked Arithmetic, and correct answers to geographical questions are all that is required. The knowledge of a language is tested and marked for under other heads.

4. You will therefore be so good as to see that no child is examined twice in the subjects of Arithmetic and Geography in the same standards by reason of a transfer from a Vernacular to an English school, or from an English to a Vernacular school.

H. W. GREEN,
Director of Public Instruction.

X.—1884.

IRRIGATION WORKS.

RETURN OF IRRIGATION WORKS EXECUTED IN THE SEVERAL PROVINCES OF THE ISLAND FROM 1868 TO 30TH JUNE, 1883.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

RETURNS OF IRRIGATION WORKS EXECUTED FROM 1868 TO 1883.

RETURNS BY THE SEVERAL GOVERNMENT AGENTS.

Name of Work	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
Western Province.									
Colombo.			A. R. P.	A R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Boralęsgamuwa tank	July, 1868 ...	December, 1868 ...	295 0 12	263 0 0 in 1883.	2 0 0	—	—	3,510 63	66 12 *a*
Kęsbęwa tank	September, 1872 ...	October, 1872 ...	75 0 0	75 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Galbemma and Węlikanda at Kohilawatta ...	July, 1872 ...	July, 1872 ...	800 0 0	500 0 0	12 0 0	8 3 31	1,056 0	—	— *b*
Ratnapura.			A. P. K.	A. P. K.					
Opanaiké aqueduct	October, 1869 ...	February, 1870 ..	12 2 0	12 2 0	—	—	—	970 33	— *c*
Kinchigunai irrigation channel... ...	October, 1869 ...	December, 1870 ...	A. R. P. 47 0 19	A. R. P 47 0 19	—	A. R. P. 20 0 19	810 0	1,153 70	— *d*
Malwatta irrigation channel	May, 1871 ...	Nov. 1872 .	A. P. K. 47 0 4½	A. P. K. 47 0 4½	A. P. K. 6 2 0	A. P. K. —	—	2,599 31	— *e*
Walalgoḍa irrigation channel	May, 1871 ...	Dec 1872 ...	A R P 271 0 0	A. R. P. 6 0 0	A R. P. 24 3 31	A. R. P. 42 0 26	518 50	2,618 30	190 84 *f*

a. The water rate became due on 30th June, 1869.

The amount of each instalment (the Government outlay recoverable being in ten instalments) is Rs, 357.52.

The amount in arrear upon each instalment on 1st January, 1884, is

Rs. 5·14 for 4th instalment.
„ 9·43 „ 5th do.
„ 7·09 „ 6th do.
„ 10·48 „ 7th do.

Rs. 13 15 for 8th instalment.
„ 9 96 „ 9th do.
„ 10·87 „ 10th do.

b. The sluice and spill-water were constructed by Government gratis—no water rate due.

c. The land-owners paid the cost of the construction of this work in ten annual instalments. The last annual instalment was paid in 1879. Government has undertaken to look after the upkeep of this work on condition that the field owners pay an annual tax of Rs. 1 on every amunam of paddy sowing extent.

d. This work was completed in December, 1870, and water-rate became due in 1871. The field-owners originally agreed with Government to repay the cost of construction of this work in ten annual instalments. Under this agreement two instalments were paid amounting to Rs. 932·16. Before the third instalment became due for 1873 the land-owners entered into a fresh agreement to pay a perpetual rate of one rupee per acre per annum, with the understanding that the sums paid for the first two instalments should be taken into account when altering the mode of repayment from repayment in ten years to a perpetual payment at the rate of one rupee per acre per year. When the amounts thus taken into account are credited to the different land-holders, they have paid water rate for a number of years to come.

e. This work was completed at the end of 1872, and water rate became due from the beginning of 1873. The field owners originally agreed with the Government to repay the cost of construction of the work in ten annual instalments. Under this agreement six instalments were paid amounting to Rs. 2,599 31. Before the 7th instalment became due for 1879, the land-owners entered into a fresh agreement to pay at a perpetual rate of one rupee per acre per annum, with the understanding that the sums paid for the first six instalments should be taken into account when altering the mode of repayment from repayment in ten years to a perpetual payment at the rate of one rupee per acre. When the amounts thus taken into account are credited to the different land-holders, they have paid water rate for a number of years to come.

f. The work was undertaken on condition that the field-owners paid the cost of construction in ten annual instalments The instalments were payable from 1873. The first four instalments were paid by some owners as they fell due. In the 5th year all the land-owners entered into a fresh agreement to pay a perpetual rate of one rupee per acre per annum, with the understanding that the sums paid by them should be taken into account when altering the mode of repayment from repayment in ten years to a perpetual payment at the rate of one rupee per acre per annum. When the amounts thus taken into account are credited to the respective parties, there is yet a sum of Rs 190·84 to be recovered.

The extent of six acres is all that was cultivated in 1883. The land-owners are most of them non-resident, who farm out the right of cultivation, taking only a very small share of the produce. Owing to the disagreement amongst the land-owners, the whole tract was left uncultivated with the exception of the extent shown. The average extent cultivated during the last eight years is 70 acres. The village Walalgoda is situated in a very feverish district. There are only 17 able-bodied men in it, and cultivators have to be induced to come from other villages. The terms offered to them have to be very advantageous to induce cultivators to come to this village. The advantage reaped by the owner is so very small, that he cares very little whether the field is cultivated or not.

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Wate Rrate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
Western Province—*contd.*									
Kalutara.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Bolabotuwęwa	1st August, 1876 ...	2nd March, 1877 ...	103 0 0	103 0 0	—	—	—	—	—[a]
Raiyagama *alias* Uyanwattéwęwa ...	18th Nov., 1876 ...	30th Nov., 1879 ...	175 0 0	175 0 0	—	—	—	—	—[a]
Remunéwęwa	22nd Jan., 1877 ..	30th June, 1881 ..	169 0 0	169 0 0	—	—	—	—	—[a]
Medagamuwęwa	10th May, 1877 ...	10th July, 1879 ...	116 0 0	116 0 0	—	—	—	—	—[a]
Alutgama Mahawęwa and Kudáwęwa ...	10th May, 1877 ...	8th Jan., 1881 ...	82 0 0	82 0 0	—	—	—	—	—[a]
Handapángoda canal	20th Dec, 1881 ...	Not completed ...	40 0 0	—	3 0 0	—	—	—	—[b]
Talpitiya flood outlet	November, 1878 ...	November, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—[c]
Canal from Módarawila to Wéragaṇga ...	11th Jan., 1883 ...	11th July, 1883 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—[d]
North-Western Province.									
Kurunégala.									
Kuḍugalpiṭiya	December, 1870 ...	December, 1871 ...	390 0 0	287 3 33	0 3 29	49 2 38	2,304 0	7,433 67	1,866 55[e]

[a] The restoration of these tanks was intended to place within the reach of the lands a constant supply of water, of which the latter stood much in need in dry seasons, when their cultivation was difficult and less productive. As the year 1883 has been unusually rainy, there was not much necessity to take water from the tanks. The entire extent of land that can be irrigated is cultivated during the year.
No water-rate is due on these tanks.

[b] The work of the Handapángoda canal has not been completed. The villagers have done the earthwork, and as there is rock in some places in the bed of the canal, the Government have been asked to have the necessary work done. Mr. Gunn surveyed the canal in July last: nothing has since been done.

[c] This canal does not help to irrigate any fields: it is a flood outlet, and prevents some 4,660 acres of paddy land from being flooded.

Note by Mudaliyar of the District.

[d] This was an old canal nearly two miles in length, but, by continuous neglect and inattention and encroachment upon it, a good portion was completely obliterated, but under the orders and the supervision of Mr. Wace, the late Assistant Government Agent, I have succeeded in repairing and restor ng it to working order under the Irrigation Ordinance by labour contributed by landowners. The Hon. the Government Agent of the Western Province, who personally inspected it, will be able to testify to its utility. It does not help to irrigate the paddy lands which are dependent on the rain for the supply of water for that purpose, but it drains off into the Wéraganga-river the water that accumulates in the paddy lands of the villages Morainna, Nalioruwa, Wękaḍa, Kalu-Dęwala, Dikbedda, Madupitiya, and Pinwatta, in extent about 800 bushels paddy sowing. During the last yala it not only considerably facilitated the cultivation of those fields, but saved the crops from the ravages of the floods. What is further required is a sluice gate close to the spot where it empties itself into the river, to prevent the influx of salt water in lieu of the existing one, which is not in working order and the waterway of which is too narrow.

[e] The amount of water-rate due is Rs. 9,317·25, to be paid in ten annual instalments commencing from 1875.
The original assessment was for 289 acres and 18 perches at Rs. 3·23 = Rs. 934·12, from which was deducted for Crown Lands and a cocoanut garden extent 2 acres, 1 rood and 6 perches = Rs. 7·39; and

	A.	R.	P.	Rs. cts.
The recovery of 1st instalment for 1875 was	286	3	12 ...	926 73
The 2nd instalment recovered for 1876 was 286 acres, 3 roods and 12 perches; add Crown Lands since sold, 1 acre and 21 perches	287	3	33 ...	930 38
The 3rd instalment recovered for 1877 was	287	3	33 ...	930 38
The 4th do. for 1878 was	287	3	33 ...	930 45*
The 5th do. for 1879 was	287	3	33 ...	930 38
The 6th do. for 1880 was	287	3	33 ...	930 38
The 7th do. for 1881 was	287	3	33 ...	930 38
The 8th do. for 1882 was	—		...	924 59
			Rs.	7,433 67

The balance outstanding, viz., part of 8th and 9th, and an item of 73 cents (for an allotment accidently omitted to be taxed since 1875) is being recovered.
The 10th instalment will be recovered when it falls due.

The original estimate was Rs. 9,090 for an anicut, and Rs. 4,910 for a channel; when a certain expenditure had been incurred on the latter, it was found that it would cost another Rs. 10,000 to complete it, and it was abandoned.

* 7 cents over-recovered by mistake.

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
North-Western Province—*contd.*									
Kuruṇegala—contd.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Wenoruwęwa	June, 1871 ...	July, 1874 ..	419 3 12	187 1 39	6 1 17	27 2 16	1,307 0	1,560 78	— *a*
Mágallawęwa	August, 1871 ...	December, 1873 ...	2,000 0 0	295 2 21	1,227 0 36	477 0 23	5,129 0*b*	2,388 95	— *c*

a. Acreage according to original specification ... ... A. R. P. 419 3 12* — Rs. cts

	A.	R.	P.		Rs. cts
Deducted for Crown Lands	27	2	16		
	392	0	36		
Do. for lands for which special service channels were required for irrigating	229	2	26		
	162	2	10		
Do. for lands exempted on account of water obtained from owners' reservoirs	24	2	34		
Assessed and recovered for 1875	137	3	16	=	138 17
Add Crown Lands sold in 1876	27	2	16		
Lands exempted in 1875 now assessed for	165	1	32		
Do. water-rate	24	2	34		
Recovered for 1876	190	0	26	=	190 54
Add lands asweddumised in 1877	10	2	1		
Deduct	200	2	27		
Lands exempted as not being irrigable	3	0	28		
Recovered for 1877	197	1	39	=	197 86
Recovered for 1878	—				197 86
Deduct for lands exempted as not being irrigable, *vide* Colonial Secretary's letter No. 502 of 31st December, 1879 ...	7	2	7		
Recovered for 1879	189	3	32	=	192 29†
Deduct for Lands exempted as not being irrigable, *vide* Colonial Secretary's letter No. 502 of 31st December, 1879 ...	2	1	33		
Recovered for 1880	187	1	39	=	187 83
Recovered for 1881		—			187 83
Recovered for 1882		—			187 83
Recovered for 1883		—			80 57‡
					Rs. 1,560 78

* Water rate Rs. 1 per acre per annum in perpetuity † Rs. 1·99 over-recovered by R. M. by mistake,
‡ Balance due is being recovered.

b. Sold in terms of Sir Henry Ward's Minute of 27th February, 1857.

c. Acreage according to original specification 2,000 acres, water rate Rs. 1 per acre per annum in perpetuity.

	A.	R.	P.		Rs. cts
The first recovery commenced from 1875 for extent under cultivation	250	0	0	=	250 38
Deduct lands exempted for 1876 on account of the defacing of the channel leading to certain tracts of fields ..	4	2	18		
Recovered for 1876	245	1	22	=	245 82
Deduct over entry by mistake of headman	0	1	19		
	245	0	3		
Add lands that were exempted for 1876	4	2	18		
Recovered for 1877	249	2	21	=	250 1
Add land asweddumised in 1878	13	0	0		
Recovered for 1878	262	2	21	=	263 1
Add for lands to which channels have since been opened ...	16	3	8		
	279	1	29		
Deduct for lands declared to be Crown	1	0	0		
Recovered for 1879	278	1	29	=	278 81
Add lands asweddumised in 1880	1	0	0		
Recovered for 1880	279	1	29	=	279 81
Add lands asweddumised in 1881	16	0	32		
Recovered for 1881	295	2	21	=	296 22
Recovered for 1882		—			290 83
Recovered for 1883		—			234 6
					Rs. 2,388 95

The balances outstanding for 1882 and 1883 are being recovered.

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
North-Western Province—*contd.*									
Kurunégala—contd.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Galgomuwa	November, 1875 ...	June, 1877 ...	500 0 0	373 0 0	12 3 17	38 2 24	520 0	1,288 52	— *a*
Mediyáwa	July, 1878 ...	August, 1879 ...	535 0 20	320 3 34	117 2 11	66 0 19	710 0	970 56½	— *b*
Puttalam.									
Tinapitiyawewa ... ... 1875 ...	November, 1870 ...	October, 1874 ...	1,220 0 0	354 0 0	400 0 0	170 0 0	3,400 0 0	815 60	— *c*
1876 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	800 1	0 57 *d*
1877 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	887 45	— *e*
1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	885 93	0 77
1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	886 96	0 1
1880 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	886 70	—
1881 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	881 19	5 51 *f*
1882 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	823 85	150 1 *g*
1883 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	739 47	103 40 *h*

a The acreage according to original specification was 1,500 acres private and Crown Land, of which 381 acres, 3 roods, 17 perches were assessed for water rate at one rupee per acre per annum in perpetuity, and the water rate was recovered from 1878 as follows :—

	A.	R.	P.		Rs. cts.
For 1878	381	3	17		
Deduct for Crown lands	46	2	0		
Recovered for 1878	335	1	17	=	335 82
For 1879	335	1	17		
Add Crown lands sold	33	2	23		
Private land brought under the operation of the tank ...	4	0	0		
Recovered for 1879	373	0	0	=	373 47
Recovered for 1880	373	0	0	=	186 73*
No recoveries for 1881	373	0	0		†
Recovered for 1882	373	0	0	=	346 22‡
Recovered for 1883	373	0	0	=	46 28‡
					1,288 52

* Only 50 cents per acre recovered, on authority of Colonial Secretary's letter No. 41 of 9th February, 1881.
† Exempted for the year 1881 on authority of Colonial Secretary's letter No. 201 of 21st June, 1882.
‡ The balance is being recovered.

b The acreage according to original specification was for 500 acres, since ascertained to be 535 acres and 20 perches, viz.:—

	A.	R.	P.
Private lands	301	2	0
Crown lands to be sold	183	2	20
Private lands to be asweddumised ...	50	0	0
	535	0	20

By Colonial Secretary's letter No 479 of 22nd October, 1877, a water rate of one rupee per acre per annum for 10 years was sanctioned.
By Colonial Secretary's letter No. 105 of 13th March, 1879, it was laid down that the land should be assessed for repayment in 10 years by equal annual instalments of the whole cost of the masonry and earthwork.—See also Colonial Secretary's letter No 74 of 31st March, 1880.
The consent of the land owners having been obtained, the above extent of 535 acres and 20 perches was assessed at Rs 3·05 per acre to repay total cost of repairs in ten yearly instalments.
By a revision of the list of private lands under cultivation the total extent was found to be 320 acres, 3 roods, 34 perches, on which extent an amount of Rs. 970·56½ was recovered for the year 1881, at the assessed rate of Rs. 3·05 per acre, leaving a balance of Rs. 8·38½ to be recovered.
By Colonial Secretary's letter No. 335 of the 11th October, 1883, Government permitted repayment in ten years to be exchanged for a payment of a rupee an acre in perpetuity, to commence from 1881.
The sum of Rs. 970 56½ already recovered, and the sum of Rs. 8·38½ now being recovered, will have to be credited to 1881 and the succeeding years at the rate of Rs. 1 per acre.

c Acreage according to original specification = 787.

d Decrease due to 15 acres struck off. Vide Government Agent's letter No. $\frac{197}{76}$ of 21st March, 1876, to Assistant Government Agent.

e An over-recovery of Rs. 0·75 has, it appears, been made.

f Steps have been taken to recover this.

g A sum of Rs. 110 has been recovered, but is not shown here, as the correctness of the recovery has been questioned since it has been credited, and is not settled yet.

h Steps have been taken by seizure of property of defaulters to recover this sum.

* As regards these items, vide the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary's letter No. 377 of 28th October, 1882, to Government Agent, North-Western Province, the 15¼ acres, which the yearly instalment paid was made to represent, is deducted from original acreage

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
North-Western Province—*contd.*									
Puttalam—contd.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Galkuḷam sluice, cost Rs. 428·52	May, 1869 ...	November, 1869 ...	60 0 0	17 0 0	—	—	—	1870 48 32	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1871 48 32	—
...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1872 41 54	—
...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1873 41 54	—
...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1874 41 92½	—
.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1875 41 92½	—
...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1876 41 91	—
..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1877 41 92	81 12*a*
Dḕduru-oya channel	February, 1872 ...	December, 1872 ...	} 1100 0 0	402 0 0	—	264 0 3	2,740 0	—	— *b*
Do. head sluice	March, 1870 ...	November, 1872 ...							
Do. dam	March, 1878 ...	Incomplete ..							
Maha-uswḕwa	May, 1876 ...	May, 1877 ...	1,200 0 0	75 0 0	1,064 1 31	194 3 3	1,317 75	—	— *c*
Central Province.									
Kandy and Badulla.									
Alut-ḕla	September, 1868	September, 1869 ...	300 0 0	143 0 0	26 0 0	—	—	4,102 9	— *d*
Buttḕla-ḕla	November, 1868	September, 1873 .	Not ascertained	727 0 0	97 0 0	—	—	9,203 73	932 67*e*
Horabo awḕwa	November, 1869 ..	December, 1873	3,0 0 0 0	263 0 0	113 0 0	192 2 19	3,086 0	2,612 14	2,121 56*f*
Kuḍáwḕwa	October, 1869 ..	July, 1873	250 0 0	27 0 0	2 0 4	87 1 26	1,759 25	—	— *g*
Kendela-ḕla	July, 1880	December, 1881 .	189 0 0	126 0 0	32 0 0	—	—	357 39	282 61*h*
Taldena anicut	February, 1880 ..	Not yet completed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ekkiriyankumbura	—	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dehiattawella Galoya anicut	July, 1879 ...	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

a. This balance has been remitted by Government, *vide* the Hon. the Colonial Secretary's letter No. 402 of 20th November, 1882, to Government Agent, Kurunégala.

b. This work not having been deemed successful, no water rate has as yet been recovered.

c. The channel in connection with this work having only been completed in 1883, water rate has not been recovered.

d. The amount due from private land-owners has been paid in full. The amount due from Crown lands has been written off upon authority of Government. The water rate became due in 1870. Each instalment (exclusive of amount due on Crown land) was Rs 408 64.

e. The amount due from Crown land has been written off upon authority of Government. Water rate became due in 1873. The amount due for each instalment (exclusive of amount due on Crown land) was Rs. 1,013 64. The amount of arrears due on each instalment is as follows:—

1876—	4th	Instalment ...	Rs. 13 25
1878—	6th	do. ...	99 97
1879—	7th	do. ...	152 71
1880—	8th	do. ...	152 71
1881—	9th	do. ...	152 71
1882—10th		do. ..	362 40
			933 75

This is more by Rs 1 08 than as stated in column headed "amount due," owing to over-recoveries on the 1st and 2nd instalments.

The fields in-default were seized, sold, and bought in by the Crown in the absence of bidders. The sale has, however, not yet been confirmed.

f. The amount due on Crown land has been written off upon authority of Government. From amount due by proprietors a sum of Rs. 920 40 has also been written off, as the purchasers failed to pay the purchase money, and the land reverted to Crown. Water rate became due in 1873. The amount due for each instalment (exclusive of amount due on Crown land) was Rs. 565·41. The amount of arrears due on each instalment is as follows:—

1873—	1st	Instalment ...	Rs 123 2
1874—	2nd	do. ...	125 16
1875—	3rd	do. ...	144 10
1876—	4th	do. ...	201 43
1877—	5th	do. ...	205 35
1878—	6th	do. ...	251 2
1879—	7th	do. ..	267 87
1880—	8th	do. ...	267 87
1881—	9th	do. ...	267 87
1882—10th		do. ...	267 87
			2,121 56

The fields in default were seized, sold, and purchased on behalf of the Crown by Mr. Cameron. The sale has, however, not yet been confirmed. The fields so treated are now rented at one-fifth.

g. Out of this sum only Rs 510·25 has been paid by purchasers of 32 acres 12 perches extent, and purchase completed; the others having failed to complete payment, the lands reverted to the Crown, and though exposed for sale again in January, 1882, were not sold for want of bidders. This work is still in hand. The area liable for assessment does not appear to have ever been determined. A survey has been applied for.

h The first instalment has been paid in full. The 2nd instalment is being recovered.

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.	
Central Province.—*contd.*										
Badulla—contd.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	
Meddabeddawęwa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*a*
Sudupanawęwa	December, 1880 ...	August, 1882 ...	452 2 28	—	452 2 28	104 2 6	1,078 25	—	—	*b*
Dikwella-ęla anicut	June, 1883 ..	Not completed.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reservoir, Barrack Plains, Nuwara Eliya ...	April, 1877 ...	December, 1878 ...	770 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	*c*
Mátalé.—Nil.										
Nuwara Eliya.										
Kurundu-oya anicut: expenditure since 1868 Rs. 250 in 1881... ...	1881	1881 ...	600 0 0	340 acres for maha, 200 for yala	32 0 0	—	—	—	—	*d*
Mulahal-ęla: expenditure since 1868 Rs. 2,000 in 1883	October, 1883 .	December, 1883 ..	342 0 0	180 acres	64 0 0	—	—	—	—	*e*
North-Central Province.										
Bassuwakkulam, repair	June, 1874 ...	July, 1876 ...				95 2 0	1,690 0	209 0		
Do. completion	June, 1876 ...	June, 1877 ..	2,500 0 0	232 2 0	2,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	*f*
Do. bund rendering safe ...	February, 1879 . .	December, 1879 ...				—	—	—		
Tissawęwa	1878 ...	1880				420 2 13	8,553 0	115 75		
Mahamadawachchiya, repairs	June, 1874 ...	May, 1876 .	300 0 0	78 3 0	221 1 0	41 0 1	526 0	369 0		
Do. do.	April, 1874 ...	do. ...								
Mankadawellawęwa	June, 1875 ...	October, 1875 ..	62 0 0	39 2 0	20 0 0	8 3 26	91 0	—	—	
Bulankulamawęwa	March, 1875 ...	April, 1875 ..	45 2 0	23 0 0	22 2 0	49 0 14	531 0	—	—	
Alankulamawęwa	do. ...	do. ...	28 0 0	18 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Mahadiwulwęwa	June, 1875 ...	August, 1875 ..	37 2 0	32 2 0	5 0 0	27 3 26	285 0	—	—	
Do. second sluice ...	May, 1875 ...	July, 1875 ..								
Etakadawęwa	October, 1875 ...	December, 1875 ..	93 2 0	44 0 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Gurukandegamewęwa	June, 1874 ...	May, 1875 ..	24 2 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Do. second sluice ...	November, 1875 ...	December, 1875 ...								
Nelugollekadawęwa	June, 1875 ...	July, 1875 ...	18 0 0	4 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Rambęwe	July, 1875 ...	Sept, 1875 ..	19 2 0	13 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Peddogamawęwa	do. ...	October, 1875 ...	9 0 0	6 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Aluthamillawęwa	October, 1875 ..	December, 1875 ..	25 2 0	—	7 2 0	—	—	—	—	
Dachchidammanewęwa	July, 1875 ...	August, 1875 ...	11 0 0	5 2 0	—	—	—	—	—	
Kongollewęwa	Sept., 1875 ...	November, 1875 ...	10 2 0	6 2 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Wadewęwa	October, 1875 ...	do. ...	43 0 0	27 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Halikumbukgollawa	September, 1875 ...	do. ...	17 2 0	7 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—	
Lunupichchidammanewa	August, 1875 ...	September, 1875 ...	10 0 0	6 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—	

a Constructed as a relief work; no land yet asweddumised under it.

b Water rate to be paid in perpetuity at one rupee per acre per annum. Land sold on 21st May, 1883. More lands to be sold. Re-survey not yet received.

c The reservoir serves only to supplement the water in the Uma-ęla in periods of drought. Its capabilities have not yet been ascertained

d. An ancient work. Were the channel in proper order, about 60 more acres of land could be irrigated. Slight repair effected in 1881.

e. An ancient work. When in proper order it will irrigate 162 acres in addition to the average of 180 now cultivated. Good masonry provided at head works in 1883.

f. Government tanks: water rate is recovered in perpetuity for every acre of land brought under cultivation at one rupee per acre

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion.	Estimated extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Tammanewęwa	July, 1875 ...	August, 1875 ...	11 0 0	9 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Pahala Tammanewęwa	August, 1875 ...	October, 1875 ...	7 2 0	4 2 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Etawéragollawęwa	June, 1875 ..	September, 1875 ...	26 2 0	16 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Malawawęwa	October, 1875 .	December, 1875 ...	69 0 0	45 0 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Rambawa	November, 1875 ...	January, 1876 .	22 2 0	12 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Helambagaswęwa	do. .	do. ...	26 2 0	18 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ullukulmawęwa	January, 1876 ...	May, 1876 ...	34 2 0	19 0 0	—	25 0 30	298 0	—	—
Pandiyankadawela	November, 1875 ...	December, 1876	53 0 0	31 0 0	12 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pusyanku amawęwa	April, 1876 ...	May, 1876 ...	228 0 0	10 0 0	200 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galegamawęwa	January, 1876 ...	May, 1876 ...	14 0 0	8 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do per spill	December, 1875 ...	January, 1876 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lolugaswęwa ...	November, 1875 .	January, 1876 ...	10 2 0	6 2 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mahadivulwęwa, per spill	January, 1876 .	March, 1876 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Etambagaskadawęwa	March, 1876 ...	May, 1876 ..	13 2 0	6 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do. per spill	April, 1876 ...	do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mahakubukgollewęwa	March, 1876 ..	April, 1876 ...	37 0 0	35 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Punewawęwa	April, 1876 ...	May, 1876 ...	53 0 0	24 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kudahammillawęwa	do. ...	do. ...	31 2 0	14 2 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Siambalagaswęwa	May, 1876 ...	June, 1876 ...	47 2 0	23 0 0	4 0 0	2 2 32	31 0	—	—
Watarakawęwa	March, 1876 ...	do. ..	38 2 0	12 2 0	7 2 0	—	—	—	—
Mahakekiráwawęwa	May, 1876 .	do. ...	63 0 0	17 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kudákekiráwawęwa	May, 1876 ...	June, 1876 ...	24 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Kirigollęwa (Kalpe Kóralé)	July, 1876 ...	September, 1876	6 2 0	12 0 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—
Do. per spill	do. ..	do. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tirapanewęwa (Ulagalla Kóralé) ...	do. ...	do. ...	14 0 0	10 2 0	2 0 0	9 2 4	103 0	—	—
Alitánewęwa	July, 1876 ...	September, 1876	41 0 0	28 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Maradankadawęlawęwa	September, 1876 .	October, 1876 ..	82 0 0	22 2 0	5 0 0	6 2 1	83 0	—	—
Nillatapattyawęwa	do.	do. ...	24 0 0	21 2 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—
Periyakulamawęwa	October, 1876 ..	December, 1876 ..	83 0 0	51 0 0	32 0 0	—	—	—	—
Hammilakulamawęwa	do. ...	do. ...	31 0 0	21 0 0	10 0 0	4 0 13	51 0	—	—
Paranahammillawęwa	do. ..	November, 1876 ...	13 2 0	8 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Gurukandegamawęwa, per spill ..	do. ...	December, 1876 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kusawéwęwa	do.	November, 1876 ...	45 0 0	29 0 0	16 0 0	8 0 38	102 0	—	—
Do. per spill ...	November, 1876 .	December, 1876 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapanęwa No. 1 (Willachchiya Kóralé) ...	October, 1876 ..	November, 1876 ..	} 81 0 0	49 0 0	32 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do. No. 2 ...	November, 1876 .	December, 1876 .							
Ulpatagama	do. ...	do. ..	5 0 0	1 2 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—
Uttimaduwewęwa	do. ...	do. ...	72 0 0	—	8 0 0	1 3 8	21 0	—	—
Mahakekiráwa, per spill	January, 1877 ...	March, 1877 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kadawatgamawęwa	November, 1876 ...	do. ...	19 2 0	13 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Sellettumaduwawęwa	January, 1877 ...	February, 1877 ...	21 0 0	13 0 0	8 0 0	—	—	—	—
Orukmankulamawęwa	December, 1876 ...	January, 1877 ...	57 0 0	33 0 0	6 0 0	4 0 28	64 0	—	—
Andarawęwa	November, 1876 ...	March, 1877 .	53 0 0	19 0 0	34 0 0	43 3 3	488 0	—	—
Adampanawęwa	February, 1877 ...	April, 1877 ...	13 0 0	13 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Karadikulamawęwa	do. ..	May, 1877 ...	42 0 0	14 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Maradankulamawęwa	January, 1877 ..	March, 1877 ...	32 2 0	7 2 0	13 0 0	—	—	—	—
Weruppankulamawęwa	March, 1877 ...	May, 1877 ...	92 2 0	33 0 0	25 0 0	—	—	—	—
Petiannakadawęwa	do. .	June, 1877 ...	50 0 0	19 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Nekatunuwewa	April, 1877	June, 1877	47 2 0	27 2 0	7 2 0	—	—	—	—
Ratmalagahawewa (Kalpe Kóralé)	February, 1877	May, 1877	20 2 0	11 0 0	0 2 0	—	—	—	—
Ratmalewewa	May, 1877	June, 1877	25 2 0	4 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Paluwewa	do.	July, 1877	31 0 0	26 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galkadawelawewa	June, 1877	October, 1877	72 2 0	28 0 0	25 0 0	5 3 18	61 0	—	—
Gangurawewa	do.	August, 1877	60 0 0	50 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kumbukwewa	May, 1877	July, 1877	42 2 0	29 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Palipotanewewa	do.	September, 1877	15 0 0	7 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ranawewewa	August, 1877	December, 1877	36 0 0	26 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mahabulankulamawewa	do.	do.	66 0 0	28 0 0	25 0 0	37 1 13	443 0	—	—
Kalpewewa	July, 1877	August, 1877	31 2 0	—	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Paranziwadiawewa	August, 1877	November, 1877	114 2 0	48 0 0	40 0 0	—	—	—	—
Wewelketiyawewa	do.	do.	40 0 0	28 0 0	12 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ralapanewa No. 1 (Kalpe Kóralé)	September, 1877	do.	40 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do. No. 2	October, 1877	January, 1878							
Horowapotanewewa	August, 1877	September, 1877	48 0 0	2 0 0	14 0 0	—	—	—	—
Anaolundawewa	do.	November, 1877	23 2 0	15 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Diyatittawewa	October, 1877	do.	26 0 0	16 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Dachchihammidawewa	July, 1877	August, 1877	18 0 0	11 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Welimapotanewewa	January, 1878	March, 1878	58 0 0	33 0 0	8 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tammanéwewa	November, 1877	do.	12 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Tamballegollewewa	August, 1877	do.	45 0 0	23 0 0	5 0 0	22 1 25	235 0	—	—
Pahala Maragahawewa	October, 1877	do.	18 2 0	17 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Pihimbiagollawewa	do.	do.	21 2 0	10 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Maha Bulankulama spill	do.	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Talagahapotanewewa	January, 1878	do.	18 0 0	15 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pudduskulamawewa	do.	do.	31 2 0	25 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ellewewa	September, 1877	January, 1878	120 0 0	50 2 0	35 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pulivankulamawewa	October, 1877	March, 1878	19 0 0	19 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Habaranewewa	December, 1877	April, 1878	107 0 0	47 0 0	60 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tambalagollewewa spill	March, 1878	June, 1878	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dachchihammillawewa raising	do.	May, 1878	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pihimbiagollewewa spill	February, 1878	June, 1878	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ganewalpola	1878	1878	33 2 0	9 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tirapankadawela spill	May, 1878	May, 1878	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Olugaskadawewa	do.	do.	15 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Palugaswewa (Matombuwa Kóralé)	February, 1878	do.	57 0 0	53 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Hiriwaddunnawewa	do.	June, 1878	82 2 0	42 2 0	40 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kokkattiyagollawewa	November, 1877	do.	29 0 0	19 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Maradankadawela (Kalpe Kóralé)	December, 1877	do.	21 2 0	15 0 0	1 2 0	—	—	—	—
Duttuwewa No. 1	March, 1878	do.	46 2 0	17 2 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do. No. 2	do.	December 1878							
Ratmalewewa	April, 1878	June, 1878	39 0 0	35 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Korasagollawewa	December, 1878	September, 1878	94 0 0	64 0 0	30 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do. Kalingula	September, 1878	October, 1878	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ihalata'awa	April, 1878	September, 1878	109 0 0	29 2 0	30 0 0	47 2 0	553 0	—	—
Tammarahammillawewa	February, 1878	do.	28 2 0	18 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Urapinuwewa	April, 1878	do.	16 2 0	15 0 0	1 2 0	—	—	—	—

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Urapinuwęwa spill ...	February, 1878 ...	September, 1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Galweragollęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	40 2 0	—	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ambagahawęwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	26 2 0	20 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Horowapotana repairs ...	June, 1878 ...	June, 1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yodá-ęla channel ...	April, 1878 ...	March, 1880 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kápirigamawęwa ...	April, 1875 ...	September, 1878 ...	170 0 0	56 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Hiriwaddunnéwęwa spill ...	June, 1878 ...	do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Duṭṭuwęwa spill ...	— ...	do. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nambadawé-węwa ...	April, 1878 ...	November, 1878 ..	50 0 0	38 0 0	12 0 0	0 3 38	11 0	—	—
Wannánmaḍuwa ...	November, 1878 ...	December, 1878 ...	76 2 0	49 0 0	30 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mahakapugollęwa ..	March, 1878 ..	November, 1878 ...	60 2 0	—	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ambagaswęwa	do. ...	August, 1878 ...	29 0 0	24 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Do. spill ...	September, 1878 ...	September, 1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unagaswęwa	do. ...	November, 1878 ...	29 0 0	17 0 0	7 2 0	—	—	—	—
Mahakappugollęwa spill ...	September, 1878 ...	November, 1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karambankulama ...	August, 1878 ...	do. ...	32 2 0	14 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Taranagollęwa ...	October, 1878 ...	December, 1878 ..	14 2 0	13 2 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kiralogama	June, 1878 ...	August, 1878 ...	17 0 0	11 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mígasségama	do. ...	do. ..	28 2 0	26 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Embulgasawęwa ..	September, 1878 ...	November, 1878 ...	46 0 0	25 0 0	12 2 0	—	—	—	—
Wágollékada spill ...	do. ...	September, 1878 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pahála Divulwęwa ...	do. ...	November, 1878 ...	27 2 0	17 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ihala do. ...	do. ...	do. ...	27 0 0	0 2 0	14 0 0	—	—	—	—
Dunwattégama ..	do. ...	October, 1878 .	25 0 0	9 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pahála Kuḍápaṭṭiya ...	November, 1878 ...	December, 1878 ...	17 0 0	14 2 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Divulwęwa	do. ..	do. ...	16 0 0	15 0 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kendęwa	— ..	do. ...	94 2 0	53 0 0	12 0 0	—	—	—	—
Relapanáwęwa ...	November, 1878 ...	January, 1879 ..	20 2 0	13 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Rotawęwa	March, 1879 ..	June, 1879 ..	36 2 0	14 0 0	11 0 0	10 3 16	115 0	—	—
Nękatunuwęwa	February, 1879 ...	March, 1879 ...	34 0 0	22 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galkaḍawela	December, 1878 ...	February, 1879 ...	20 0 0	12 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kalanchya	December, 1878 ...	June, 1879 ..	65 2 0	55 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galapitagala	January, 1879 ...	April, 1879 ...	56 2 0	32 2 0	24 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kalu Ebbe	March, 1879 ...	August, 1879 ...	31 2 0	16 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Palukęṭuwęwa ...	October, 1878 ...	January, 1879 ...	45 2 0	17 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Rasnaikawęwa ...	do.	do.	53 2 0	15 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kakulbendidigiliya ...	do.	do.	16 0 0	4 0 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Diwulwęwa	do.	do.	148 0 0	39 0 0	76 0 0	—	—	—	—
Etakaḍa outlet ...	September, 1879 ...	September, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wadewęwa spill ...	February, 1879 ...	March, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karambęwa	March, 1879 ..	May, 1879 ...	23 0 0	6 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Relapanawa	do.	do.	12 0 0	8 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Angunachchya ...	April, 1879 ...	May, 1879 ...	20 0 0	10 2 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—
Minhitigama	May, 1879 ...	July, 1879 ...	19 0 0	15 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Hiripitiyáwa	March, 1879 ...	June, 1879 ...	19 0 0	6 0 0	13 0 0	—	—	—	—
Heudegama	January, 1879 ...	March, 1879 ...	30 0 0	26 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirigollawe, No. 1 sluice ...	do.	April, 1879 ...	27 2 0	11 2 0	10 0 0	10 1 1	134 0	—	—
Baḍahęlaęṭáwęṭunuwęwa ...	December, 1878 ...	January, 1879 ...	15 0 0	6 2 0	1 2 0	—	—	—	—

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Lindewęwa	April, 1879 .	May, 1879 .	18 0 0	8 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Dummunegama	do.	do.	15 0 0	10 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Gonuheddanęwa	February, 1879 .	September, 1879 ...	28 2 0	18 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Udangewęwa	January, 1879 ...	March, 1879 .	27 0 0	20 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Walketuwęwa	May, 1879 ..	June 1879	18 0 0	12 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirellugama	June, 1879 ...	November, 1879 ...	52 2 0	22 2 0	30 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pabala Talâwa	March, 1879 .	do.	98 0 0	38 0 0	60 0 0	27 0 32	300 0	—	—
Mahabellankadawala	May, 1879 ...	August, 1879 ...	43 2 0	—	24 0 0	—	—	—	—
Walahawiddawęwa	March, 1879 ...	May, 1879 ...	40 0 0	27 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Muwa Etagama	April, 1879 ...	November, 1879 ...	87 2 0	10 2 0	75 0 0	9 1 36	106 0	—	—
Wattewęwa	do.	May, 1879 ...	17 0 0	13 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirigollęwa No. 2 sluice	May. 1879 ..	July, 1879 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirimetiyâwa	April, 1879 ..	May, 1879 .	7 0 0	6 0 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Talgahawęwa	May, 1879 ..	September, 1879 ..	35 0 0	23 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Welewa	June, 1879 ..	August, 1879 .	9 0 0	9 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Bahondawęwa	do.	November, 1879 . .	30 0 0	20 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirimetiyâwa	May. 1879 . .	December, 1879 ...	26 2 0	14 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirigollęwa spill	November, 1879 ..	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kulikkada	October, 1879 ..	do.	26 2 0	13 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Wiralmurippuwa	July, 1879 ...	November, 1879 ..	24 2 0	14 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Irrampakulam	do.	October, 1879 ...	37 0 0	21 0 0	15 0 0	—	—	—	—
Siyambalagassewęwa	August. 1879 ..	do.	26 0 0	18 2 0	3 2 0	—	—	—	—
Kirimetiyawa spill	July. 1879 .	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ratmalegahawęwa spill	September, 1879 ...	December, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kumbukwęwa	June, 1879 . .	August, 1879 . .	62 0 0	31 0 0	31 0 0	—	—	—	—
Puliyankulama	July, 1879 ...	September, 1879 .	42 2 0	16 0 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kanadora Diwulwęwa	June, 1879 ...	do.	12 0 0	9 2 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—
Kalawęwa contour	September, 1879 ..	December, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Periyakulama spill	July, 1879 ...	July, 1879 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nambadawęwa spill	March. 1779 ...	April, 1879 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moragoda	November, 1878 ...	February, 1879 ...	19 0 0	5 0 0	3 0 0	13 1 8	145 0	—	—
Amane	January, 1880 ...	March, 1880 ..	27 2 0	15 2 0	12 0 0	—	—	—	—
Helembéwęwa	April, 1880 ...	July, 1880 ...	6 2 0	2 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tirappane	June, 1880 ...	September, 1880 ...	56 2 0	22 2 0	8 0 0	—	—	—	—
Lenogama	July, 1880 ..	August, 1880 ...	9 2 0	7 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Mankadawela spill wall	May, 1880 ...	July, 1880 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sippéwęwa	do. ..	do. ...	9 0 0	6 0 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Karappikada	April, 1880 . .	June, 1880 ...	38 0 0	28 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kidagallégama	February, 1880 ...	March, 1880 ...	40 0 0	30 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kudágama	do. ...	April, 1880 ...	17 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Periyakulama	January, 1880 .	do. ...	45 2 0	22 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Illakéwiddawęwa	April, 1880 ...	August, 1880 ...	55 0 0	30 2 0	15 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mahakóngaskada	August, 1880 ...	October, 1880 ...	47 0 0	28 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Lindahittidamana	November, 1880 ...	December, 1880 ...	9 2 0	6 2 0	3 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tammanékulama	October, 1880 ..	do. .	29 2 0	15 0 0	12 2 0	—	—	—	—
Nawakulama	November, 1880 ...	January, 1881 ...	24 2 0	16 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kidawarankulama	June, 1880 ..	August, 1880 ..	48 0 0	21 2 0	17 2 0	—	—	—	—
Kudákumbuggollęwa	April, 1880 ...	June, 1880 ...	18 0 0	14 2 0	2 2 0	—	—	—	—

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Onekkeṭiyawa ...	September, 1880	October, 1880	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marakkalahammilléwa ...	do.	do.	16 0 0	11 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kudakongaskada ...	June, 1880	August, 1880	8 0 0	7 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Pahalatalava spill wall ...	March, 1880	May, 1880	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turuvilla ...	do.	December, 1880	340 2 0	40 2 0	300 0 0	35 2 3	385 0	—	—
Surukulam ...	do.	May, 1880	16 0 0	12 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pahalatalava spill wall ...	do	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mediyawe	September, 1880	November, 1880	66 2 0	46 2 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Konwewa	June, 1880	September, 1880	28 2 0	24 2 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Eliyadiwulwewa ...	July, 1880	do.	34 0 0	29 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Hurigaswewa	September, 1880	December, 1880	45 0 0	38 0 0	7 0 0	—	—	—	—
Rajjalégama	do.	do.	39 2 0	34 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kirimeṭiyawe spill ...	November, 1880	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yakáwewa	February, 1880	March, 1880	30 0 0	7 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kudámadawachchiya ...	November, 1880	January, 1881	9 0 0	9 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Kalpewewa spill	December, 1880	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andrawewa spill ...	do.	December, 1881	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kelediwulwewa ...	July, 1881	October, 1881	52 2 0	29 2 0	23 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pavindekulam	March, 1881	June, 1881	65 0 0	27 2 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Amunukole	do.	do.	32 2 0	32 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Eppawela	do.	July, 1881	42 2 0	30 2 0	12 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galmaduwa ...	May, 1881	September, 1881	43 2 0	28 2 0	14 0 0	—	—	—	—
Palugaswewa	do	July, 1881	26 0 0	19 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Galewewa	February, 1881	May, 1881	24 2 0	21 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Sangattawa	October, 1881	December, 1881	33 0 0	13 0 0	20 0 0	—	—	—	—
Pahamunegama ...	February, 1881	May, 1881	31 2 0	9 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Pottegama	July, 1881	September, 1881	31 2 0	11 0 0	20 2 0	—	—	—	—
Kuttikulam	November, 1881	December, 1881	9 2 0	4 2 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—
Alutwewa	June, 1881	August, 1881	21 2 0	21 2 0	—	—	—	—	—
Ihalagama	do.	October, 1881	5 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 0	4 3 3	69 0	—	—
Mahamankadawela ...	August, 1881	December, 1881	78 2 0	50 2 0	28 0 0	—	—	—	—
Máláwe spill ...	April, 1881	June, 1881	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ellewewa repairs ...	September, 1882	October, 1882	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Allitane spill ...	November, 1882	December, 1882	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Periyakulam spill ...	December, 1882	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sellettemaduwa spill ...	November, 1882	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eliya Dewulwewa repairs ...	October, 1882	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajjaligama ...	November, 1882	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sellettamaduwa repairs ...	October, 1882	do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobbendáwe	March, 1883	December, 1883	26 2 0	—	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kela Puliyankulama ...	do.	do.	20 0 0	1 2 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Viharáhammilléwa ...	do.	do.	16 0 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tammanawewa ...	do.	do.	13 0 0	8 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Usgallawewa Pahalagama ...	do.	do.	14 0 0	1 2 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ayevategewewa ...	do.	November, 1883	18 0 0	14 0 0	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Mahanetiyáwa ...	do.	December, 1883	22 0 0	4 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kunjuttuwewa ...	do.	do.	22 0 0	—	4 0 0	—	—	—	—
Lunustuléwewewa ...	do.	November, 1883	5 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	—	—	—

Name of Tank.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE—*contd.*			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Gonumaruwęwa	March. 1883	September, 1883	13 0 0	6 0 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Italwętunuwęwa	do.	November, 1883	20 0 0	5 0 0	10 0 0	—	—	—	—
Ratmalegahawęwa kalingula	do.	December, 1883	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nelugollakaḍawęwa	do.	September, 1883	19 0 0	7 0 0	1 0 0	—	—	—	—
Kadurugaskaḍawęwa	do.	October, 1883	8 2 0	4 0 0	0 2 0	—	—	—	—
Appuwęwa	do.	November, 1883	17 2 0	15 2 0	2 0 0	—	—	—	—
Tikirebandawa	do.	do.	6 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	—	—
Etaweragollawa	do.	September, 1883	12 0 0	6 0 0*a*	6 0 0*	—	—	—	—
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.									
Galle.									
Digoḍa	1872	1873	123 3 24	53 1 12	—	—	—	2,135 59*b*	646 92*c*
Hambantota.									
Udukiriwila	1871	1873	920 0 0*d*	899 0 0*e*	1 0 0*f*	—	—	11,772 11*g*	— *h*
Tissamaharáma	1871	1876	10,000 0 0 to 15,000 0 0*i*	450 0 0	15,000 0 0 or more	2,140 0 0	15,604 0	—	—

a The actual extent of field cultivated in 1883 is considerably less than the total extent of cleared paddy field. This is not altogether due to insufficiency of water, but often to the practice of cultivating fields alternately.

b Water rate became due in 1877 : amount of each instalment Rs. 398·93, to be recovered in ten instalments.

* *c* Arrears for 1882 ... ... Rs. 274 42
Do. 1883 ... ... 372 50
Rs. 646 92

d The extent originally cultivated is given differently by different authorities, and varies from 2,500 to 5,000 acres, but it was subsequently discovered that only 920 acres derived benefit from the water, and it was decided to levy the rate only from that extent. (Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 385 of 7th September, 1876.) It was further arranged (vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 385 of 7th September, 1876) that the rate was to be recovered at a rupee per acre in perpetuity, and that the purchaser of the tythe should pay the rate. This has been done for the last nine years with the result, as shown above, of a total recovery which represents a return of somewhat less than 2 per cent. per annum on the cost of the work, but, if interest is reckoned at 2½ per cent., then column 10 should show Rs. 4,467·49 due on water rate, but not leviable.

Note.—The Government Agent in the letter approved of by the Colonial Secretary, indeed, says that the rate should be collected on 2,930 acres, but the extent irrigable does not exceed 920 acres. (Vide Mudaliyar's report and Mr. Mosse's estimate of Rs. 750.) A rupee an acre per annum has been recovered from all the land benefited by the tank, and consequently there are no arrears. Reckoning the 920 acres to have paid on an average Rs. 4 per annum as tythe, the cost of the work has already been nearly recovered.

e During the year 1883, Rs. 1,698·75 were recovered at 50 cents per acre at each harvest, which gives 899 as the acreage actually cultivated during the year.

f I have shown one acre only, as it is so given in previous returns, but the Mudaliyar says there are 8½ acres, and I have ordered him to send in printed application for survey of the same.

g The water rate is payable in perpetuity at the rate of one rupee per acre per annum, and is recovered in the same manner as the tythe.

h The water rate became due after the completion of the work in 1875, and the first recovery was made in 1876.

i According to Sessional Paper No. X. of 1874, the extent irrigable was 10,000 to 15,000 acres, and a partial estimate is shown of Rs. 35,921·73, but according to XLII. of 1882, the extent irrigable is given at 1,400, and the expenditure Rs. 139,752. It was found in point of fact that the works could not irrigate more than 600 acres, and a further expenditure has been recommended for works which, some say, will serve 12,000 acres. This I doubt; and the problem to be solved is whether to incur a much heavier expenditure upon the basis of a rational scheme, or to give up the idea of further extending the works, and returning their money to those who have purchased lands in the vain expectation of being able to irrigate them. My individual opinion is that no more money should be spent on the works for some years to come, but that if there is any money to spend, it should be upon works in a part of the district which is better-peopled, and where the labour difficulty will consequently not be so great.

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land Sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Southern Province—*contd.*									
Mátara.									
Borala tank *a*	1868	1869	423 0 0	423 0 0	31 1 0	22 2 0*b*	167 0	1,350 0	—
Kekanadura tank *c*	1869	1872	2,000 0 0	900 0 0	—	28 1 24	2,657 0	6,626 38	656 5*d*
Denagama and Uyangwęwa *e*	1868	1873	2,350 0 0	767 0 0	30 1 32	61 3 0	1,234 25	4,628 54	711 64*f*
Wehella tank *g*	1873	1873	75 0 0	63 0 0	5 0 0	—	—	550 15	81 5*h*
Gangaboḍa Pattu Scheme.									
Hali-ęla tank *i*	1871	1872	*Vide* next page	220 0 0	—	—	—	10,434 22	554 82*d*
Sapugoḍa anicut *j*	1871	1872		296 3 0	—	—	—	2,643 84	113 25*d*
Urapola anicut *i*	1871	1873		1389 2 20	3 2 10	—	—	included under Háli-ęla	

a The cost of this work was repaid in ten annual instalments. Water rate under this tank became due in 1870, and the repayment was completed in 1879.

b The lands sold were diwel lands.

c This is a work under which water rate is payable in perpetuity at the rate of one rupee an acre. The first recovery was made in 1873. The area included in the specification made under the Ordinance No. 21 of 1867, section 21, is 2,000 acres. 421 acres, 2 roods, 5 perches, and 707 acres, and 8 perches, were the extents watered by the tank in 1873 and 1874, respectively. In 1875 the extent was corrected to 915 acres, but in the two following years only 103 acres and 24 acres, respectively, were cultivated, owing to the tank not filling. 1,031 acres and 20 perches were irrigated in 1880. In 1881, the extent liable to pay water rate was corrected to 900 acres by altering the extent of land in the Wellaboḍa-pattu to 666 acres, 3 roods, and 20 perches (Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 227 of 30th May, 1882.) The Yala harvest paddy crop of 1881 having failed, half water rate was remitted by Colonial Secretary's letter No. 427 of 10th August, 1881.

d Arrears for 1883 being recovered.

e Water rate (under one heading) is recovered as regards these tanks in perpetuity. The first recovery was due in 1875. The area included in the specification is 358 acres, 2 roods, and 7 perches under Uyangwęwa; and 1,066 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches under Denagama tank. The extent actually cultivated fluctuated as follows:—

	A.	R.	P.	
1875 ...	567	1	30	
1876 ...	—			tank ran dry.
1877 ...	226	3	10	want of water.
1878 ...	762	3	10	
1881 ...	767	0	0	

In 1881 the water rate of 35 acres was remitted by Colonial Secretary's letter No. 583 of 15th October, 1881, a channel conducting water to a tract of that extent having been breached and rendered useless.

f Arrears due for 1882 ... Rs. 248 99
Do. 1883 ... 462 65
Rs. 711 64 being recovered.

g The cost of this work was to be repaid in ten annual instalments. The area of the land included in the specification is 62 acres, 1 rood and 7 perches. Water rate became due in 1875, the amount of an instalment being Rs. 78·90. The balance of the instalments (Rs. 81·5), of which the details are as follows, is being recovered:—

			Rs.	cts.			Rs.	cts.
1st	Instalment due	1875 ...	5	76	7th Instalment due	1882 ...	20	75
2nd	do.	1876 ...	5	76	8th do.	1883 ...	15	75
3rd	do.	1877 ...	13	30				
4th	do.	1878 ...	2	0			81	5
5th	do.	1879 ...	1	98				
6th	do.	1879 ...	15	75				

In 1880 the tank burst and was under repair, consequently the 6th instalment was postponed for 1881.

h Vide Note *g*.

i Payment in perpetuity is made under these works, and the recoveries are entered under one heading. Water rate under Hali-ęla became due in 1875, and under Urapola in 1877. The areas included in the specification are 842 acres and 14 perches, and 1,969 acres, 2 roods and 13 perches, respectively. The extent irrigated has been yearly increasing as shown below:—

	A.	R	P.	
1875 ...	174	2	15	
1875 ...	201	1	29	
1877 ...	1,316	2	0	(extent irrigated by both works.)
1878 ...	1,527	3	25	
1879 ...	1,583	0	20	
1880 ...	1,597	2	20	
1883 ...	1,609	2	20	

In 1878 an extent of 166 acres and 25 perches was exempted for that year by Government authority, and the water rate of 65 acres was remitted for 1881. Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 260 of 19th May, 1882.

j This work pays in perpetuity, and water rate became due in 1875. The area of the land included in the specification is 383 acres, 3 roods and 7 perches. The acreage cultivated under this work varied as follows:—

	A.	R.	P.	
1875 ...	309	0	25	
1876 ...	314	2	28	new lands irrigated.
1877 ...	321	2	0	do.
1878 ...	307	0	0	14 acres and 2 roods exempted by Government authority.
1879 ...	306	2	0	
1880 ...	306	2	0	
1881 ...	296	3	0	ascertained to be the correct extent liable to pay water rate.

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Southern Province—*contd.*									
Gangaboda Pattu Scheme—contd.									
Batuwita and Uduwa channels	1871	1873		—	—	—	—	—	—
Ellewela tank *b*	1873	1876		1,095 3 25	2 3 0	—	—	8,329 34	295 37*a*
Hali-ela channel	1873	1877	7,000 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sapugoda head sluice	1873	1873		—	—	—	—	—	—
Pettre anicut c	1873	1877		788 1 3	—	—	—	3,782 90	751 80*a*
Alawatugoda anicut	1874	1877		335 1 20	—	—	—	1,626 75	335 37*a*
Dandeniya tank	1877	1879	627 0 0	454 1 21	0 2 34	—	—	1,689 96	53 97*a*
Eastern Province.									
Batticaloa.									
Rukam tank	June, 1869	November, 1872 ...	12,000 0 0	6,000 3 23	2,154 1 28	2,797 1 36	41,932 0	35,266 33½	29,980 80¼ *f*
Ampárai extension	April, 1872 ...	31st Dec., 1873							
Senkatpadai	July, 1870 .	30th Sept., 1872							
Kurumalkanchi	Do. ...	10th May, 1871	24,000 0 0	22,596 3 14	1,239 3 18	2,052 0 22	53,345 50	54,874 48¼	28,809 20¾ *g*
Aládi Odai	April, 1872 . .	November, 1872							
Vaddai Váikkál	Do. ...	Do.							

a Arrears for 1883 being recovered.

b Lands under this tank pay in perpetuity. Water rate became due in 1875. The area of the land included in the specification is 1,496 acres, 3 roods and 38 perches. The extent cultivated in 1875 was 759 acres, 3 roods and 25 perches. In the two following years, 751 acres and 637 acres, respectively, were cultivated, and there was a failure of water in the tank. 1,044 acres, 3 roods, and 25 perches was the average extent cultivated during the two years 1878 and 1879. In 1878 an extent of 1 acre and 1 rood was exempted by Government authority. In 1880 the acreage was increased to 1,093 acres, 3 roods and 10 perches, Wellaboda Pattuwa land to the extent of 48 acres, 3 roods and 25 perches, having been irrigated by the tank. In 1881 the acreage liable to pay water rate was corrected to 1,097 acres, 3 roods and 25 perches by altering the area in the Wellaboda Pattuwa to 53 acres. (Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 227 of 3rd May, 1882.)

c This work pays in perpetuity, and water rate under it became due in 1878. The area of the land included in the specification is 986 acres, 1 rood and 3 perches. The extent cultivated for 1878 was 593 acres, and in 1879 it was increased to 788 acres, 1 rood and 3 perches, which is the actual extent liable to pay water rate under this work

d This work pays in perpetuity, and water rate became due in 1878. The area of the land included in the specification is 194 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches. The extent cultivated for 1878 was 334 acres and 2 roods; but of this 48 acres and 3 roods were damaged, and consequently exempted In 1879, 334 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches were irrigated, and in 1880 335 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches, and the latter extent remains unaltered

e This is a tank paying in perpetuity. Water rate became payable in 1880. The area included in the specification is 627 acres and 2 roods. The extent cultivated in 1880 was 420 acres; and in 1881 it was altered into 415 acres. (Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No 227 of 3rd May, 1882.) In 1882 the acreage was increased to 454 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches, new lands to the extent of 39 acres, 1 rood and 20 perches having been irrigated by the tank.

f Water rate became due in 1873. The amount of each annual instalment of water rate is Rs. 6,539·77¼, to be paid in ten yearly instalments.

The area of the land included in the specification made under the Ordinance No. 21 of 1867 is 6,705 acres, 3 roods and 5 perches, private lands. In 1883 an extent of 1,384 acres, 3 roods and 2 perches have been excluded from the extent liable to the tank, as not being irrigable without further improvements, which reduces the acreage to 5,321 acres, and 3 perches on which repayment in ten years is leviable. (Vide Colonial Secretary's letter No. 3 of 6th January, 1883.)

Amount in arrear on each instalment on 1st January, 1884, is as follows, viz.:—

				Rs.	cts.
1st Instalment	due in	December,	1873 ...	311	65¼
2nd	Do.		1874 ...	1,052	42
3rd	Do.		1875 ...	1,539	7
4th	Do.		1876 ...	1,876	35
5th	Do.		1877 ...	2,473	9¼
6th	Do.		1878 ...	3,741	39
7th	Do.		1879 ...	4,133	72
8th	Do.		1880 ...	4,421	90¼
9th	Do.		1881 ...	4,964	9
10th	Do.		1882 ...	5,467	11
			Total — Rs.	29,980	80¼

g Water rate became due in 1874. The amount of each instalment of water rate is Rs. 8,368·45, payable in ten annual instalments. The area included in the specification made under the Ordinance No. 21 of 1867 is 23,144 acres, 3 roods, 36 perches of private lands.

The balance in arrear of each of the instalments on 1st January, 1884, is as follows, viz.:—

				Rs.	cts.
1st Instalment	due in	December,	1874 ...	376	29¼
2nd	Do.		1875 ...	608	32¼
3rd	Do.		1876 ...	899	78
4th	Do.		1877 ...	1,642	56¼
5th	Do.		1878 ...	2,565	61¼
6th	Do.		1879 ...	2,862	0
7th	Do.		1880 ...	3,332	4
8th	Do.		1881 ...	4,138	48
9th	Do.		1882 ...	5,559	17
10th	Do.		1883 ...	6,824	94
			Total — Rs.	28,809	20¾

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government.	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
EASTERN PROVINCE—*contd.*									
Batticaloa—contd.			A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Pulukunávi	February, 1871 ...	December, 1872 ...	3,500 0 0	3,000 0 0	696 1 12	4,136 1 4	79,755 0	—	— *a*
Kadukkámunai	4th March, 1870 ...	Do. 1871 ...	3,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	1,710 2 10	—	—	3,894 66½	10,673 64¼ *b*
Divulánai	July, 1870 ...	30th Nov., 1872 ..	3,000 0 0	1,200 0 0	1,468 0 7	3,058 1 39	35,020 75	1,967 24½	25,273 48½ *c*
Sadayantaláwa	April, 1872 ..	December, 1873 ...	3,000 0 0	1,200 0 0	775 3 24	1,774 3 34	39,223 0	6,997 4½	22,165 10¾ *d*
Sákámatu	February, 1871 ..	Do. 1872 ...	3,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	80 2 16	1,213 0 0	18,112 0	—	25,453 87¼ *e*
Trincomalee.									
Allaikulam	July, 1868	November, 1873 ..	4,000 0 0	1,320 1 32	474 2 16 } *f*	1,325 1 39	27,170 36	29,127 79	1572 68 *g*
Periyakulam	June, 1868 ..	December, 1872 .	867 0 0	104 3 24	398 0 20 } *f*	166 0 4	3,336 50	4,796 40	684 7 *h*

a, b, c, d & e.—Here the large extent of Crown land surveyed and sold in connection with these five works, added to the old lands liable in each case, having been found to embrace an area exceeding what was originally estimated to be capable of irrigation, a re-assessment is to be made, when the actual extent liable to water rate can be determined.

The arrears of instalments outstanding on 1st January, 1884, on the first assessment are as follows, viz.:—

Pulukunávi.—No recoveries made, for reasons stated in Sessional Paper XLII. of 1881 page 5, noted.

Kadukkámunai tank.—Arrears are:

				Rs.	cts.
1st instalment due in	November,	1874	...	254	23¾
2nd	Do.	1875	..	333	77
3rd	Do.	1876	..	578	68
4th	Do.	1877	...	1,010	66
5th	Do.	1878	...	1,413	96
6th	Do	1879	...	1,456	47
7th	Do.	1880	...	1,456	47
8th	Do.	1881	..	1,456	47
9th	Do.	1882	...	1,456	47
10th	Do.	1883	...	1,456	47
		Total — Rs.		10,673	65¾

Divulánai tank.—Arrears are:

				Rs.	cts.
1st instalment due in	August,	1875	...	2,051	79½
2nd	Do.	1876	...	2,149	40
3rd	Do.	1877	...	2,919	71
4th	Do.	1878	...	3,025	43
5th	Do.	1879	...	3,025	43
6th	Do.	1880	...	3,025	43
7th	Do.	1881	...	3,025	43
8th	Do.	1882	...	3,025	43
9th	Do.	1883	...	3,025	43
		Total — Rs		25,273	48½

Sadayantaláwa tank—Arrears are:

				Rs.	cts.
1st instalment due in	November,	1875	...	404	63¼
2nd	Do.	1876	...	631	99½
3rd	Do.	1877	...	2,313	28
4th	Do.	1878	...	2,935	97
5th	Do.	1879	...	3,017	44
6th	Do.	1880	...	3,190	45
7th	Do.	1881	...	3,197	64
8th	Do.	1882	...	3,234	23
9th	Do.	1883	...	3,239	47
		Total — Rs.		22,165	10¾

Sákámatu tank.—No recoveries have been made, as it is in contemplation to improve the tank. No new assessment has yet been made. See Sessional Paper XLII of 1881, page 5, note *e*..

f Taken from Sessional Paper XLII. of 1881

g The following are the arrears due on account of Allaikulam :—

				Rs.	cts.
On 31st May,	1877,	3rd instalment	...	43	4
Do.	1878,	4th do.	...	137	46
Do.	1879,	5th do.	...	268	44
Do.	1880,	6th do.	...	278	84
Do.	1881,	7th do.	...	285	42
Do.	1882,	8th do.	...	264	38
Do.	1883,	9th do.	...	295	10
			Rs.	1,572	68

h On account of Periyakulam :—

				Rs.	cts.
Due 31st May,	1879,	5th instalment	...	37	98
Do.	1880,	6th do.	...	37	98
Do.	1881,	7th do.	...	105	34
Do.	1882,	8th do.	...	150	52
Do	1883,	9th do.	...	352	25
			Rs.	684	7

Name of Work.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Completion.	Estimated Extent capable of Irrigation.	Actual Extent under Cultivation.	Extent of Land belonging to Government	Extent of Government Land sold.	Amount realized by Sale.	Amount realized on Water Rate.	Amount due on Water Rate.
Northern Province.			B. Q.	B. Q.	B. Q.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Vavuṇiya-Vilāṅkulam sluices ...	... April, 1880 ..	December, 1880 ...	500 0	280 0	220 0	34 2 37	358 0	—	—
Irambaikulam sluice ...	... November, 1880 .	June, 1881 ..	55 0	50 0	5 0	—	—	—	—
Vellikulam sluice	... do.	... December, 1880 ...	45 0	40 0	5 0	—	—	—	—
Piramanankulam sluice ...	.. do.	... June, 1881 ...	12 0	11 0	1 0	8 2 9	86 0	—	—
Manducotta do. ...	... do.	... do. ...	230 0	68 0	0 16	23 0 29	232 0	—	—
Vanankulla do. ..	... April, 1881 ...	do. ..	100 0	82 0	18 0	—	—	—	—
Mamadu do. ...	... do.	... July, 1881 ...	149 0	25 0	147 0	3 1 5	34 0	—	—
Irulperiyakulam do. ...	... do. ..	do. ...	241 0	233 0	8 0	38 2 13	390 0	—	—
Mannár.—Nil.									
Mullaittivu.—Nil.									

a No water rate is due or recovered from these sluiced tanks. The sluices (and spillwaters) were constructed gratis by Government.

XI.—1884.

BILL TO AMEND THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend No. 10 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Thoroughfares in this Colony.'"

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 29th October, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance to amend No. 10 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Thoroughfares in this Colony.'"

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. P. A. TEMPLER, Acting Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS,
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET.
} Unofficial Members.

BILL TO AMEND THE THOROUGHFARES ORDINANCE.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report upon an Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to amend No. 10 of 1861, entitled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Thoroughfares in this Colony,'" have the honour to report as follows :—

The Draft Ordinance having been carefully considered by the Sub-Committee, has been materially altered in the following respects :

1st.—It is deemed advisable that no person shall be called upon to perform labour until the full time allowed for payment of commutation at single rate shall have elapsed.

2nd.—That any person who shall have become liable to perform double labour may commute the same by payment of a sum of Rs. 4.

3rd.—That persons guilty of misconduct under clause 15 shall not in the aggregate receive more than six days' extra labour.

4th.—That a register shall be kept of all warrants issued under this Ordinance, giving reasons for which such warrants were issued, and the punishment awarded to offenders.

5th.—That subsistence shall be provided for all labourers who may apply for same, such subsistence being taken as the equivalent of half a day's wage, and involving the performance of labour for double the number of days for which the labour was due.

6th.—That the rates of commutation at present being levied shall continue in force until altered by Proclamation.

The Committee have made several minor amendments, which are indicated in the Revised Draft, which the Committee report herewith.

7th.—*Clauses* 16, 17, 18, gave rise to considerable discussion.

The Hon. Mr. VanLangenberg proposed to amend clause 16 by omitting from the word "to," in line 4, to the end and inserting instead "on conviction thereof to imprisonment for one month with or without hard labour."

Upon a division being taken, the votes were :—

For the Amendment.	*Against.*
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis.	The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet.
The Hon. P. Rámа-Náthan.	The Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Government Agent, Western Province.
	The Attorney-General.
	The Colonial Secretary.

Regarding clause 14, the Committee are of opinion that the provision for double labour should be carried out by means of notice and not by warrant, that option of paying double commutation should be given, and that the labourer should provide himself with food unless he elects to work double time in consideration of being fed.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
F. FLEMING.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
P. A. TEMPLER.
JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
A. L. DE ALWIS.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
22nd November, 1884.

XII.—1884.

GOVERNMENT PAPER CURRENCY BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 12th November, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Treasurer.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, }
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET, }

PAPER CURRENCY BILL.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report upon the Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the issue of Government Paper Currency," have the honour to report as follows :—

Clause 4 (new No. 5).—The Committee propose that power should be given to issue notes of the values of Rs. 100, Rs. 500, and Rs. 1,000, and the Committee consider this requisite to give the necessary facilities for trade.

Clause 9.—The Committee will raise no objection to the insertion of the words "all payments by notes," &c., provided it is enacted that these payments shall be devoted solely to the satisfaction and discharge of the notes guaranteed by the Government, or to the reduction of the loan raised for the redemption of these notes, or to a sinking fund for the repayment of the loan.

Clause 18.—Having regard to the wording of this clause, lines 5 and 6, the Committee recommend that the words in lines 14 and 15, "on the interest yielded by the investments," be omitted, and the limit of the Depreciation Fund be twenty per centum.

Clause 23.—Insert "or any facsimile of the signatures of any of the Commissioners."

The Sub-Committee report the Bill with some minor amendments.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
R. W. D. MOIR.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
18th November, 1884.

XIII.—1884.

SUPPLY BILL, 1885.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1885."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 12th November, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1885."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. P. A. TEMPLER, Acting Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. R. B. DOWNALL,
} Unofficial Members.

SUPPLY BILL, 1885.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed to report upon the proposed Ordinance "for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1885," have to submit the following :—

No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

I.—CIVIL.

SECRETARIAT.—*Printing Branch.*

THE sum of Rs. 7,500 "for purchase and upkeep of plant and material" should be transferred to "Miscellaneous," page 118, thereby reducing the total under this heading to Rs. 171,062.

TREASURY.

The item of Rs. 575 under "Allowances" should be transferred to "Pensions," page 89, making the total under this heading Rs. 36,753.

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

The salary of the Government Agent has been placed upon the same footing as that of the Eastern and North-Western Agencies, as recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

The increase as against last year of Rs. 1,690 is to provide for Treasury staff at Badulla and Nuwara Eliya, rendered necessary by the Oriental Bank having been closed at those places.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Salaries.

There is a nett increase of Rs. 991·75, accounted for by the appointment of three new Inspectors and a Tracing Officer, and increased pay to Messrs. Wrightson and L. Creasy, these charges more than counterbalancing the reduction by three in the number of Superintending Officers.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The salary of the Surveyor-General has been reduced, on a new appointment, by Rs. 2,400.

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.

The reduction under this heading of Rs. 6,785 16 is accounted for by the abolition of one European Pilot, the discontinuance of crew of mooring boat, and reduction of salary to the Master of the tug "Active."

POST OFFICE.

An increase of Rs. 1,542 under this heading is due mainly to increments to Postmasters.

Telegraph Branch.

The strength of the Department has not been increased; the difference between this year's estimate and last is due also to increments.

THE COLOMBO MUSEUM.

The Committee notice that the item "maintenance of grounds" has been increased by Rs. 500. Though approving of this amount for the upkeep of the grounds, they regret it is made at the sacrifice of part of the sum allowed for the purchase of books and specimens.

II.—JUDICIAL.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

The reduction under "Lands" is approximately accounted for by the decrease in the salary of the Registrar, Galle, and Contingencies, and under "Marriages" by decrease of Registrars' Allowances and Office Contingencies.

IV.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The abolition of the Normal School accounts for Rs. 9,725 of the total decrease of Rs. 44,935; the balance is due to the proposed transfer of certain schools to the Municipalities and Local Boards.

V.—MEDICAL.

Decrease amounting to Rs. 4,708 is made under headings of Provisional and Temporary Salaries, Allowances, and Contingencies.

VI.—POLICE.

The charges being reduced to Rs. 21,490 is due to the withdrawal of the police from several minor stations.

VII.—PRISONS.

The Sub-Committee notice that under this head a reduction is made of Rs. 7,000—the result of a recommendation made by the Retrenchment Committee to amalgamate the offices of the Inspector-General of Police and Prisons.

IX.—RAILWAY.

The increase amounting to Rs. 45,338 is on account of salaries and office contingencies, rendered necessary chiefly by opening the line to Talawakelé.

SERVICES, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

No. 2.—PENSIONS.

The very large increase under this heading is due to pensions which have lapsed being Rs. 7,000 less than last year, and to an increase in Pioneer pensions from Rs. 23,000 to Rs. 35,000 ; also to an increase of Rs. 40,000 in the pensions paid by Crown Agents in London.

No. 3.—REVENUE SERVICES.

GRAIN.

The increase is owing to the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance in the Southern Province.

No. 8.—HOSPITALS AND SANITATION.

Agent, Northern Province.

In view of the fact that there is no permanent hospital in the Jaffna Peninsula, it was the desire of some Members of the Committee to recommend to the Council the desirability of establishing one in place of maintaining the Friend-in-Need Society Hospital, at an annual cost of Rs. 4,000. But as the Committee were informed the Government are taking measures to place the management of that hospital on a more satisfactory basis, it is thought advisable to defer the consideration of this vote till the proposal of the Government has had a fair trial.

No. 12.—CONVEYANCE OF MAILS AND POSTAL-TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

The Committee have examined the Postmaster-General, and have agreed to recommend that where the mails are carried by runners, only one mail a day be forwarded, and that no night mails be carried by runners on lines beyond Náwalapitiya.

After careful consideration, the Committee are prepared to recommend the vote for Rs. 2,500 for extra remuneration to clerks. They strongly object to the practice of paying for overtime, but this allowance having been made for several years, and it being represented that the cost involved in the abolition of this practice, and maintaining instead a sufficient staff to carry out the extra duties on arrival of mails, would be more expensive than the existing system, the Committee will raise no objection to this vote.

No. 13.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

NEW WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

Western Province.

The total amount still required for completion of the New Lunatic Asylum, Colombo, including the Superintendent's house, is Rs. 215,895, which will make a total of Rs. 477,592. In asking for a vote on account of balance required of Rs. 100,000, the Committee regret that the building will not be completed for less than Rs. 77,592 in excess of the sum distinctly stated to the Council as a maximum in 1879. They trust that means may yet be devised by which this large sum, in excess of the amount previously named, may be reduced.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO BUILDINGS.

Central Province.

The Committee agree in recommending the vote of Rs. 6,851 for repairs and alterations to Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya, as it is a case of urgency, but would prefer another year to consider a vote for the construction of a new building suitable as a Governor's residence in place of spending such a large sum of money, as now asked, for alterations and repairs. They have however ascertained that a considerable portion of this vote is for offices and out-buildings, which can be utilized when a new house is built.

REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS.

General.

They regret that no reduction appears possible in the sum of Rs. 8,000 required for maintenance, repairs, and additions to Medical Aid Hospitals.

No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.

In order to keep within the limit of Rs. 285,000, to which the votes for roads is limited, the Committee recommend the adoption of the proposed votes for roads, with the exception of the

following :—Road from Pánaduré to Nambapána ; Little Dunbar to Fruit Hill, Rs. 17,299; Maturata to Uda Pussellâwa, Rs. 70,000 ; Bridle-path from Agras to Horton Plains, Rs. 5,000 ; Wilson's Bungalow to Haputalé, Rs. 90,000.

The votes recommended for the remaining roads amount to Rs. 261,925.

The road from Pánaduré to Nambápána is rather a district than a main road, and is too costly a work to add to the charges of the general revenue. The estimate for 22 miles of this road, framed in 1878, was Rs. 269,140.

While the Committee consider that it is of great importance to make roads as feeders to the railway, it is not prepared to recommend the road from Little Dunbar to Fruit Hill bazaar, which would not bring much, if any, additional traffic.

It would, in the opinion of the Committee, be advantageous to open up the Maturata district and to bring its produce to the railway at Nánu-oya, but as the majority of proprietors of estates in the district do not undertake to use this route, if the road were made, the Committee omit it from the list.

The road from Wilson's Bungalow to Haputalé Pass would afford a connecting link between the main roads from Badulla to Kandy and from Badulla to Colombo, and would bring some, if not eventually considerable traffic to the railway at Nánu-oya, but as the majority of the landowners in Haputalé are opposed to the road the Committee do not recommend this vote.

The road from Pundalu-oya to Wattagoda, as a direct feeder to the railway, has the approval of the Committee.

In recommending the votes for the Galmal-oya road towards Alutnuwara—an important road in native interests—and from St. Margaret's to Umá-oya, the Committee desire to record their opinion that money from general revenue should be voted only for roads made on a cart road trace. Acting on this principle, they are unable to recommend a vote for the bridle-path from Agras to Horton Plains.

The Lower Badulla road to be opened as a cart road commends itself to the approval of the Committee as completing a desirable line of communication, and opening up a large tract of country at present entirely unassisted. For this purpose the Committee feel justified in recommending the vote of Rs. 11,000, and also the addition of the available balance of Rs. 23,075, making a total vote on this year's account of Rs. 34,075 for this work.

The road from Barrack Plain, Nuwara Eliya, to join Dimbula road is strongly pressed on the Committee for approval, as providing means for more direct communication between Uda Pussellâwa and the railway at Nánu-oya.

The extension of the road from Kurundu-oya viâ Nildandahinna to Badulla appears to be advisable for the purpose of opening up the country in native interests.

Eastern and North-Central Provinces.

The Committee are prepared to recommend the vote of Rs. 113,820 for the improvement of the Trincomalee-Anurádhapura road, concurring as they do with the view expressed by His Excellency the Governor, that this forms one of the great main lines of communication originally designed to connect different districts of the Colony, which now remain unopened.

MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.

In view of the fact that but little more than Rs. 2,000 is now taken from general revenue for the upkeep of the Colombo-Kandy road, they would suggest that a Superintending Officer on Rs. 6,000 per annum is no longer necessary at Kégalla.

In view of the great importance of maintaining the roads of the Colony in good order, the Committee have thought it advisable to enquire into the system of maintenance adopted, and they examined the Director of Public Works (Mr. Churchill) and the Provincial Assistant of the Central Province (Mr. MacBride), whose evidence, with Memoranda on the subject, is recorded in Appendix A.

In considering the estimated cost for maintenance of roads, the Committee desire to record their opinion that the system now recommended by the Provincial Assistant, Central Province, should have a fair trial.

IRRIGATION.

The Committee cordially recommend these votes, and trust the results will in due time fully justify the expenditure.

No. 15.—MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

The difference from the vote for last year of Rs. 12,743 is accounted for by reductions of Rs. 4,360 on the vote for the cost of Grain Commission ; Rs. 3,500, commission to Oriental Bank Corporation, Kandy, on drafts ; Rs. 5,000, stationery for Government Printing Office ; and reductions on votes for reward for destroying bears and cheetahs, and for registering Kandyan marriages.

Under this head the Committee cordially adopt the recommendation put before it by the Government to vote Rs. 10,000 towards connecting the Survey of Ceylon with the Great Survey of India.

Provision amounting to Rs. 25,080 for Ceylon Government Notes is necessary, and Rs. 1,500 is inserted in the estimates for cost of counting Oriental Bank Corporation Notes on redemption.

No. 16.—INTEREST.

The charges under this head amount to Rs. 621,937, to which should be added Rs. 765,000, provided under the head Railway Services (No. 23), making the total charges for interest

Rs. 1,386,937, being an increase for 1885 of Rs. 277,965, as compared with 1884 when the charges amounted to Rs. 1,108,972. The interest is payable chiefly on loans for Public Works in progress, and for the Mátalé Railway. Particulars of these charges are subjoined :—

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

		Payment for 1885. £. s. d.
Loan from Public Works Loan Commissioners under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, £250,000, at 3½ per cent., repayable out of General Revenue. Annuity chargeable against Colombo Port Dues.	(1) Received on 7th February, 1876, £50,000, repayable in annual instalments of £2,500 each, payable on 7th February of each year from 1877 to 1910 inclusive; balance thereafter remaining to be paid in full on 7th February, 1911	2,500 0 0
	(2) Received on 19th August, 1876, £25,000, repayable by a payment of Rs. 812·10 on 7th February, 1877, and thereafter by annual instalments of £1,250 each, payable on 7th February of each year from 1878 to 1910 inclusive; balance thereafter remaining to be paid in full on 7th February, 1911 ...	1,250 0 0
	(3) Received on 17th May, 1879, £50,000, repayable in annual instalments of £2,622, payable on 7th February of each year from 1880 to 1910 inclusive; balance thereafter to be paid in full on 7th February, 1911 ...	2,622 0 0
	(4) Received on 28th February, 1883, £50,000, repayable in annual instalments of £2,831 5s. payable on 7th February of each year from 1884 to 1910 inclusive; balance thereafter remaining to be paid in full on 7th February, 1911	2,831 5 0
	(5) Received (probably) by end of September, 1884, £75,000, repayable in annual instalments estimated at £4,500 each payable on 7th February of each year from 1885 to 7th February, 1911	4,500 0 0
		£13,703 5 0

				Payment for 1885. £. s. d.
Loan of £400,000 raised by debentures under Ordinance No. 5 of 1874, repayable out of General Revenue. Interest payable from Colombo Port Dues.	Debentures at £100 each:			
	Raised in 1876 £100,000	At 4½ per cent. interest and 1 per cent. Sinking Fund from Dec., 1881	Interest £9,000 Sinking Fund £2,000	
	Do. in 1878 £100,000			11,000 0 0
	Do. in 1883 £200,000, interest 4 per cent., Sinking Fund 1 per cent.		Interest £8,000 Sinking Fund £2,000	10,000 0 0
				£34,703 5 0
				= @ 1s. 8d. Rs. 416,439

COLOMBO WATERWORKS.

		Payment for 1885. £ s. d.
Loan of £291,000 raised by debentures, under Ordinance No. 7 of 1879.	Debentures issued for £291,000 at 4 per cent. per annum. Sinking Fund payments commence in 1888, being 5 years from first issue of debentures.	
	Interest at 4 per cent. on £291,000	11,640 0 0
	Sinking Fund	Nil.
	Charges for Advertisement, &c.	31 15 0
	£11,671 15s. at 1s. 8d per rupee = Rs. 140,061.	11,671 15 0

MATALE RAILWAY LOAN.

		Payment for 1885.
Under Ordinance No. 8 of 1877, £275,000 raised by debentures in January and August, 1880, repayable from General Revenue. Interest at 4 per cent., payable half-yearly on 15th February and 15th August; and from January, 1885, Sinking Fund at 1 per cent. on whole loan	Interest £11,000 Sinking Fund £2,750	
		£13,750 0 0
	£13,750 at 1s. 8d. the rupee = Rs. 165,000.	

NANU-OYA RAILWAY LOAN.

Loan authorized by Ordinance No. 9 of 1878, £1,000,000 repayable from General Revenue.	Raised by debentures, January to August, 1880 ... £425,000 0 0	
	Do. July to October, 1881 ... £575,000 0 0	
	Interest at 4 per cent. per annum and (from 1885 inclusive) Sinking Fund at 1 per cent. per annum, payable on 15th February and 15th August each year ... Interest £40,000 Sinking Fund £10,000	
		£50,000 0 0
	£50 000 at 1s. 8d. = Rs. 600,000	

No. 23.—RAILWAY SERVICES.

The amount required this year—Rs. 999,065—shows an increase of Rs. 28,121 in addition to Rs. 45,338 already referred to under No. 1 (IX.), and is due to the opening of the extension towards Nánu-oya.

No. 26.—EXCHANGE.

There is an increase of Rs. 10,000 under this heading.

A schedule B. is attached, showing details of alterations recommended to be made in the estimates, and in schedule C. is given the detail of unexpended balances to be brought for ward for expenditure in 1885.

The total of the Bill as now reported is Rs. 8,723,577·39.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
R. W. D. MOIR.
P. A. TEMPLER.
JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
R. B. DOWNALL.

Legislative Council Chamber,
November, 1884.

APPENDIX.

A.

ROAD MAINTENANCE.

Mr. Churchill, in reply to questions, stated :—The way in which roads are now repaired is the system according to the printed Instructions and Regulations of the Department laid down as long ago as the time of Mr. Molesworth.

The permanent repair necessary when the traffic was very heavy is not now required on account of the diminution of the coffee crops, and also on account of the traffic being partly carried by the railway.

After three years I am of opinion the system of permanent repair, for which blinding with gravel is necessary, will again have to be resorted to ; the present system is now practicable on account of the roads being in such good condition after years of permanent repair.

The following statement will show how the cost of upkeep has been gradually reduced :—

	Mileage of Roads.	Total Cost of Upkeep.	Rate per Mile.
	Miles.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
1878 ...	2,637 53 ..	1,722,441 84 ...	653 50
1883 ...	2,834·44 ...	1,237,358 74 ...	436 54
1884 ...	2,872·68 ...	1,125,676 96 ...	391 85
1885 ...	2,873·68 ..	824,015 75 ...	286 74

Mr. MacBride, in reply to questions, stated :—The new system differs from the system as laid down in the Instructions in this way. By the new system only the worn portion of a road is to be done, the larger portions of the worn metal are to be separated and placed in the spots prepared, new metal added, and the smaller particles of the worn metal are to fill up the spaces between the new metal ; after that, the worn dust or "detritus" to be spread over the whole as a binding, and surface lightly stamped. The size of the metal will not be reduced below two inches.

In my opinion, the system proposed will do away entirely with what is known as permanent repairs.

I have only been in charge of the Central Province for seven years. I was averse to proposing the change until I had experience in the working of the permanent system. I have every confidence in the system now proposed, more especially as the permanent system is peculiar to this country, and has not been found necessary elsewhere

I do not propose in any way to reduce the quantity of metal, which is the cardinal principle in the upkeep of roads ; and I am of opinion the present good condition of the roads will in no way be affected.

I do not at present see any prospect of being able to reduce the cost of upkeep below that now estimated ; further experience may enable me to change my opinion on this point.

It will require from three to five years under the proposed system to re-metal the entire surface of a road.

[Chairman read Regulations, Public Works Department, 105—108.] What is the difference between the instructions there laid down and the system you propose ?

I have explained everything most fully in a paper submitted to Government. [Paper called for.]

Regulations as laid down have been observed ; my system differs from the one described in Regulation book.

[Chairman read Regulation 112, requiring 2½ inch metal.]

Mr. MacBride uses 2-inch metal ; considers the size and quantity of metal applied the chief point in upkeep of roads.

REGULATIONS *of Public Works Department*, 105—108 *and* 112.

"105. Soft damp places in the road should at once be attended to, and, if muddy, they should be scraped out and hard material pounded into them."

"106. The first indication of breaking up should be immediately taken in hand, the places picked up, and in metal roads patched with finely-broken metal."

"107. The first appearance of ruts should be carefully watched, and the traffic forced out of the rut."

"108. Permanent or thorough repairs are of too frequent occurrence, and if a proper system of upkeep is adopted the necessity for them will be comparatively rare."

"112. Care should be taken that the metal is not too large. Patching should always be done with finely-broken metal ; in heavy cuttings, large metal which will in any position pass through a 2½ inch ring may be used with a layer of finer metal above it. The metal should be broken as nearly as possible in cubes, and oblong portions of metal rejected or broken again The attention of the officer should be given to the selection of stones of hard quality for metal."

The papers referred to by Mr. MacBride are as follows :—

I.—MEMORANDUM *on Road Maintenance.*

Metalled roads.—For some time past I have had a conviction that the mode of maintaining the public roads in Ceylon is unnecessarily costly, and that it is possible to introduce a system at once equally effective, and as perfectly adapted to the class of traffic and its requirements, at half the present outlay. In order to obtain this result, I propose to abolish in a great measure blinding and stamping the material used for repairs, and substituting a method which will still preserve the hardness and smoothness and form of the roads, as well as the thickness of their covering.

2. *Proposed system.*—The chief features of the proposed system are :

That the new material should be applied without the addition of any form of blinding save that picked up during the preparation of the worn surface, when the repairs are being executed.

That minute repairs should be carried out in such a manner as will tend to induce—in fact, prevent—vehicles from following in each other's track, thereby causing an excessive wear of a continuous rut.

That the execution of repairs should, as far as possible, take place during the rainy seasons.

3. *Present system* —Roads in Ceylon are now repaired in the following manner:—The metal is usually piled in heaps, each containing 100 cubic feet, and when a sufficient quantity for re-metalling the surface has been obtained, gravel (that is to say, a material commonly called gravel, which in nine cases out of ten contains from 30 to 50 per cent. of clay) in the proportion of about 1 to 2 of metal is also piled. The whole surface of the road is then picked up, and the new and old material combined are spread, watered, and stamped once. The blinding is then added, and the stamping proceeds until it and the traffic passing over the road have done the work of consolidation; but, if the native overseer in charge is not very closely supervised, it is to the traffic that consolidation is mainly due. The difficulty of close supervision is obvious when it is remembered that a Public Works Officer's charge extends over a large area with a road mileage varying from 70 to 150 miles, and that he must devote his attention as well to the repair and construction of buildings and irrigation works.

4. *Consolidation of the metal.*—It is assumed that the Departmental rules applicable to consolidation of newly-laid metal by stamping meet the case, and if properly observed the road becomes rapidly hard. Practically it is not so: for days together the traffic is carried over loose metal, totally unblinded or partially or wholly blinded, because the work of consolidation cannot be accomplished at once, and is only so gradually; therefore it is that under the existing system of picking up the whole surface the traffic must be carried over loose unconsolidated metal. Under the system proposed, seldom will both wheels of any cart or carriage, or both bullocks, ever touch loose metal at one and the same time, and never need there be the continuous prolonged struggle which is now forced upon every draught animal without alternative.

5. *Injury to bullocks' feet improbable.*—My report upon the subject of this Memorandum (No. 2,354 of the 11th November, 1883) was laid before the Retrenchment Committee, whose opinion was that the introduction of the system would be the cause of injury to the bullocks' feet. I venture to submit, however, with the respect due to the opinion of that Committee, the following remarks upon this, the only objection raised. The existing system is not without this objection, for during wet weather it produces a very heavy draught because of the large quantity of blinding material of inferior quality used, and a muddy, soft road, it must be admitted, cannot but cause injury to animals with cloven hoofs, while the strain upon animal labour is undoubtedly thereby increased. Moreover, the fact that loose metal is and always has been on the roads *when undergoing repairs* should not have been ignored. In superficial area the extent of loose metal from which there is no escape is as much now as it is likely to be under the proposed system, the difference, however, being in favour of the latter, as the metal can to a great extent be avoided, and I firmly believe its introduction would materially relieve the draught cattle of their trying exertions and bad treatment when struggling to drag the overloaded carts.

6. *Method of laying the metal and reduction of size.*—It is not proposed to lay down loose metal over the whole road's surface and leave the traffic to work it in. Such a system, I admit, is not adapted to Ceylon traffic, although where extensive periodical additions of material are laid it is common to most countries. But what is proposed is a method of minute repairs with metal broken to a suitably small size, by which the road covering will be preserved at a constant thickness. These repairs should be made systematically on patches varying in size, and it is well known that under this method, properly followed, roads can be maintained for an indefinite period in a high state of efficiency. No inconvenience need be felt from this method of patching, for the reason that it can be carried out in a manner that cannot be considered objectionable. The rut or depression should be picked up, all dirt or mud having been first removed, the small particles of worn metal being preserved as a blinding. The new metal should then be laid in the place prepared for it, and blinded over with whatever material has been preserved—the patch being then stamped with a light stamper which can be rapidly used with one hand by a road cooly. Should there be a continuous stream of carts over the newly-executed work, causing the wheel or wheels that may touch it to sink in, the wheel track can at once be filled in and brought level with the adjoining surface. Such, however, as the sinking in of a wheel is improbable, because it is not proposed to spread deep layers of metal,—in fact not more than the thickness of one stone, and this done on a firm substratum there need be no loosening nor displacement.

7. *Wear and tear of surface.*—It is well known that the wear upon the surface of a properly constructed road is slow, provided vehicles can be prevented from following in each other's track, and it is only by some such method as proposed that traffic can be diverted. Before the introduction of an extensive system of railways in Europe, vast sums of money were devoted to sweeping and scraping the surface of roads in order to obliterate the track of preceding vehicles (draught animals instinctively follow in the track of preceding vehicles), and it was considered money well spent, for it obviated the necessity of frequently disturbing the hardened surface for the purpose of maintaining a proper transverse form of roadway. The introduction of barriers in Ceylon was at one time considered a solution of the difficulty (they were introduced by Mr Molesworth), but it proved a failure for the reason that they were a constant source of danger on our narrow hill-country roads, and their removal at night was as often neglected as not. After a fair trial they were condemned as a public nuisance, and the traffic resumed its perpetual movement over the one beaten track.

8. *Repairs to be done during wet weather.*—The execution of repairs during the rainy season has its advantages—namely, the condition of the surface at that time makes the work of preparation easier and promotes a more rapid consolidation of the repairs; while the necessity of transporting water, if water is indispensable, which I doubt, is obviated. Elsewhere roads are invariably repaired at this period, and therefore it is generally the case that they are in good order during dry weather.

9. *Advantages of proposed system.*—In such a manner is it proposed to carry out this system of road upkeep, that there cannot be any valid reason for the presumption that there will be a rise in the cost of transport. It should be clearly understood that there is no intention to throw loose metal anywhere and everywhere, but that it is proposed to introduce a system that can be worked in a manner that need be no more objectionable than that now in force. *All roads in Ceylon are under repair at least once a year*, and the pleasure of driving rapidly over them is slightly marred in consequence, but this particular class of traffic would derive much benefit if the present system were changed, because the unworn centre would no longer exist, and the horse would cease to be placed at the disadvantage of having to travel for miles over a dangerous rough surface or a treacherous narrow ridge.

10. ***Reduction in the number of items of expenditure.***—It is proposed to discontinue the following works or items of expenditure on road maintenance :—

Gravelling (getting, loading, transport, and spreading) ;
Watering (getting, filling water cart, and transport) ;
Pounding or stamping (in the manner at present in force).

Fifty per cent. of the expenditure has gone to defray the cost of these works ; their discontinuance would therefore relieve the annual vote to this extent nearly, not wholly, for it is proposed to still expend a certain sum upon stamping. The saving to be effected by the abolition of the foregoing works may safely be set down at 45 per cent. of the Estimates of the current year. Instead, therefore, of the many items of expenditure under which road maintenance is now executed, it would be possible to limit them to the following :—

1. Metal (piled) at per cube.
2. Drainage (twice each year).
3. Patching or darning, at per square.
4. Clearing jungle (twice each year).
5. Repair of lines (once each year).
6. Miscellaneous (landslips, repair of culverts, rent, acquisition of land for quarries).

These are items over which the Public Works Department can exercise the most perfect check from a long experience and from complete, personally-verified data. Added to this, they should form separate detailed items in the Estimates annually submitted to Government for sanction, thereby imposing upon officers the absolute necessity of the closest possible supervision.

11. *Cost of proposed system.*—With a view of arriving at the actual cost of the system proposed, the officers in Nuwara Eliya, Dimbula, and Dikoya were requested to personally supervise the work of one day under certain similar conditions in regard to the number of coolies to be employed, I, at the same time, informing them that in the Gampola Departmental District I would do likewise. The instructions required the work to be done in the following manner (July 17th, 1884, was the day fixed, with twenty coolies composed of 14 men, 4 women and 2 boys, or as near this proportion as possible):—The mud or dust was first to be removed from the worn surfaces, after which rectangular pieces were to be picked up a depth of not less than two inches, the edges being cut sharp and perpendicular. When a piece had been cleared out level the large old metal was to be separated and thrown in, and new metal added until it was brought level with the adjoining surface on all four sides. The worn smaller particles of metal were then to be separated from the material picked up, and spread over the new metal in order to fill up the interstices, when the patch was to be stamped with a mamotie. Finally, the dust or detritus remaining was to be spread as a binding material or blinding—the whole being again stamped as before. These instructions were carried out, and I append the result and views of each officer on the system. I also append the details and result of the work supervised by myself upon that day, and would here remark, that neither by the officers in the districts named nor by myself was any pressure brought to induce on the part of the coolies more than usual industry and energy when properly supervised. They were allowed to work in their own way, and when heavy rain fell, which it did on three occasions during my day's trial, they were permitted to take shelter until it had ceased. I am, however, prepared to admit that probably more than usual industry was displayed upon that occasion, but the results leave an ample margin on estimates I have already framed, and my views as to cost are consequently more than fully confirmed. Testing the cost was carried on simultaneously in the four districts named under almost similar circumstances as to position of metal to be used, weather and coolies employed. The results are in unison in nearly every detail, showing the cost per square (10 ft. by 10 ft.) in Dimbula at 38 cents, Gampola and Dikoya 36 and 37 cents, and Nuwara Eliya 40 cents. In the lastnamed district coolies are paid higher rates, the higher pay being in about the same ratio as the higher cost of the work done.

12. *Re-arrangement of Departmental districts.*—In the Central Province—indeed in every Province—after the system becomes thoroughly understood, a re-arrangement of districts, extending the present officers' charges, may be effected. For instance, in the Province named the districts of Dimbula and Dikoya may be united under one officer ; Katugastota may be divided between the Mátalé and Kandy charges ; a portion of the Kandy charge (west and south) being added to the Gampola District ; and Nuwara Eliya coming further north than at present. Two officers and their establishments will therefore be available for service elsewhere, and the cost of supervision will be proportionately reduced. There are thirty-six overseers and eleven kanganies in the Central Province (Departmental) drawing pay as follows :—

		Rs.	cts.	
Overseers	...	1,290	25	per mensem.
Kanganies	...	170	54	do.
Total—Rs.		1,460	79	do.

This expenditure may be reduced by at least one-half, if the proposed system be introduced.

Gravelled Roads.

13. *Proposed abolition of stamping and watering.*—The abolition of watering and stamping in the case of gravelled roads need not be the cause of any feeling of alarm. In the North-Central Province there was not one mile of properly formed, finished, gravelled road when I assumed charge of the works which had just been commenced in 1874. During my tenure of office there 90 miles of gravelled road were constructed, and neither watering nor stamping was ever done. The present and general condition of these roads prove conclusively that such works are unnecessary, for I believe I am correct in stating they have never been introduced into the North-Central Province. I submit therefore at their discontinuance throughout Ceylon may take place at once. If the gravel is spread in the rainy season in sufficient quantity, which will depend upon the traffic, the roads will remain good throughout the year, the gravelled surface receiving such attention as levelling for some short time after the new material hasbeen spread ; in fact, in this respect the present system of keeping the surface smooth until the material has consolidated forms an important part of the proposed system in regard to both gravelled and metalled roads.

II.—Further Remarks *on the proposed change in the system of Road Maintenance.*

The chief objections raised are based upon a supposition that it is the intention of the Government to abolish stamping and blinding, and to spread loose metal over the whole surface of the roadway. Nothing could have been more misleading than the widespread publicity this seems to have obtained ; it has caused the discussions to assume a complexion totally different from what they would have, had those who have taken part in them been in possession of accurate information on the subject—the outcome of these discussions being that resolutions have been passed at District Meetings condemning a change that has never been contemplated. The tendency of such deceptive information as has already caused the condemnation of the system has been to preclude a dispassionate consideration of the question at the outset ; the proposal has been subjected to adverse criticism, not because it is what it is, but because it is what it is not—the principal objections urged against it being the following :—

(*a*) It is predicted that it will drive a great many carts off the road altogether ; that it will increase mortality among the cattle, and incapacitate a large number of them from work.

(*b*) That the idea of non-stamping of metal will speedily stop all traffic on the road.

(*c*) That a heavy load carried upon two narrow wheels requires a different system from the same upon four broad wheels, that the metal will not bind for a long time, and that loose metal means high cart hire and great inconvenience.

(*d*) That Ceylon roads have always been so much admired by strangers for solid construction and excellent upkeep, it would be deplorable if an alteration in the system hitherto pursued tends to the loss of our pre-eminence in this respect, and creates new difficulties and higher cost of traffic.

The conclusion to be drawn from the foregoing quotations is, that the alarm created by misleading rumour has influenced the public to prejudge the project ; but I shall be much disappointed if, when what is proposed becomes known, it should become the subject of renewed protest. I should be sorry indeed to say a word that seemed like throwing cold water on the opinion of those so eminently qualified to express an opinion, but cannot but suppose, judging from the success which has attended the partial introduction of the system, that the prejudice against the change is more because it is a change than anything else ; it is the opposition to be expected on the introduction of anything to which the public are not accustomed.

It may be said, and I have no doubt is said : the roads are good enough, why make any change ? The answer is, the roads are very good, but the system under which they are maintained is very costly ; and as a cheaper one, having the merit of an increase rather than a decrease in the application of metal, which *alone* sustains the traffic, presents itself, it is urged that a trial should be given to it. The existing system is not alone costly, but extravagant, for the following reasons.

When but one-fifth of the surface is worn, in order to repair it it is necessary to pick up and disturb the whole roadway. The blinding material used is excessively costly and most destructive to the metal, for two reasons in each case :—

(*a*) It is difficult to check the quantity used without seriously interfering with the progress of the work ; and from the great distance apart of gravel quarries the item of transport is enormous.

(*b*) The quality is exceedingly bad ; it therefore literally of itself consumes the metal and causes the formation of mud in wet weather and dust in dry weather.

McAdam's system—and it is one that may well be followed—was similar to that which I propose, save and except that one of his directions to his workmen was that "nothing is to be laid on the clean stone on pretence of binding" is, in deference to public opinion regarding the probable injury to bullocks' feet, left out of the proposed system. I believe the life of pure clean metal would be double what it is, if no injurious binding material were added. Binding material is seldom used, except in large towns or cities where the consolidation of the surface by steam rollers can be carried on without inconvenience to the traffic, and even then the utmost care is taken in the selection, screening, and not unfrequently washing of the material, and the roller is run several times over the clean metal, which almost thoroughly consolidates it before the binding is added, so that the latter does not mix with the new clean stone but is merely on the surface. In Ceylon the old and new metal, mud, clay, and gravel, are mixed and pounded together, and a week after the work is finished even the comparatively light traffic of the present day wears a visible rut that a month later must not be neglected.

The costly process of picking up the whole surface of the road in order to maintain its proper transverse form is absolutely necessary, because the traffic never leaves the one beaten track. Were it to move about, the road would wear evenly and last much longer, and the necessity of the existing system be less frequent, if indeed there would ever be any necessity for it ; therefore it is that I propose to abandon what I can only characterize as extravagant, and, as regards the inferior and injurious binding material, destructive.

It will be seen from the paper I have already written upon this subject that I do not contemplate recommending, nor do I imply it, a complete departure from the present system. The strong public feeling that blinding is indispensable, which goes so far as to say all traffic would be suspended if it were abolished, has, notwithstanding its injurious effects, induced me not to omit it, but I propose to use the old worn particles of metal in lieu of inferior gravel, and I consider stamping with a light stamper advisable. I propose patching the inequalities or depressions in lieu of disturbing the whole surface; this system will induce the traffic to leave a beaten track, and will soon become more popular than that now in force. The introduction of the patching system for roads of *moderate traffic*, which means an average daily tonnage of 400 tons upon a road covering of 14 feet wide, is no innovation; it is common to most countries where vehicles are drawn by either horses or animals with cloven hoofs. Rollers for consolidating the metal are seldom, if ever, used upon country roads, yet I propose the judicious use of a light stamper of 12 to 20 lbs., with which the wheel tracks can be promptly effaced, so that the new stone covered with the blinding I recommend will soon bind together. The French Engineers of the Corps des Ponts at Chaussées were the first to give anything approaching an exhaustive study to this question. It was found that the roads were always in better condition—in fact, they were never so good nor the expense of maintenance so small—as when the system so strongly advocated was in full operation. Instances without number could be quoted in favour of the patching system instead of general repairs (traffic is invariably stopped absolutely when roads are under general repairs) for, apart from the money saving which is considerable, it is more thorough and effectual, while one of its strongest recommendations is that there is the possibility of bullocks and carts escaping the loose metal when the road is under repair, whereas at present this is impossible—there is no escape—a very material difference, and one that should never be lost sight of in any further consideration of the question.

Since the year 1877 the upkeep votes have been reduced by more than one-half, conditions such as climate, gradients, labour rates, being the same, traffic alone having decreased. It is well known the wear of material is not in direct ratio to the tonnage passing over it. Other conditions remaining the same, it augments much more rapidly than the tonnage. Already the reductions under the existing system have gone too far, for, what with the destructive properties of the blinding material and the cost of the works I propose to discontinue, the metal is rapidly consumed, and the depth or quantity upon the roads is becoming less and less every year. Fortunately the demands of traffic have been comparatively light for some years back, but the day may not be far distant when greater demands will have to be met, and then there will be practical illustration of the impolicy of sacrificing for appearance sake the stability and excellence of roads constructed at enormous cost, but allowed to deteriorate because luxury claims the first consideration. There should be no diminution whatever in the application of metal: it alone is the material which sustains the traffic and keeps the roads in good condition.

B.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS to be inserted, increased, reduced or omitted from the Supply Bill, 1885.

No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.	To be inserted	To be increased.	To be reduced.	To be omitted.
I—CIVIL.				
TREASURY.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
For Note Issue.				
Clerk	700 0	—	—	—
Kanakapillai	500 0	—	—	—
Counter	240 0	—	—	—
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT				
5 Inspectors at Rs. 1,500 to be increased to 6 Inspectors	—	1,500 0	—	—
BOTANIC GARDENS				
Salary of Head Gardener	—	100 0	—	—
,, Superintendent, Hakgala .	—	100 0.	—	—
III.—ECCLESIASTICAL.				
Allowance.				
Salary of Acting Chaplain, Galle Dutch Church ...	—	375 0	—	—
IV.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.				
Salaries.				
Royal College, French Master . ..	—	—	—	720 0
No. 9.—PRISON SERVICES.				
Inspector-General of Prisons.				
Transport	—	—	1,500 0	—
No. 11.—TRANSPORT.				
Treasurer				
Horse Allowance to Chaplain of the Kandyan Districts	—	—	—	300 0
No. 12.—CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.				
Postmaster-General.				
Railway line, Nawalapitiya and Talawakele ...	—	500 0	—	—
Colombo and Negombo line ..	—	—	600 0	—
Nawalapitiya, Lindula, Dikoya, &c. ...	—	—	3,220 0	—
Talawakele and Badulla	—	—	2,360 0	—
Wilson's Bungalow, Haputale, &c. ..	—	1,500 0	—	—
Kayts and Delft	—	—	—	240 0
Mihintale and Anuradhapura ...	—	—	—	120 0
Cooly hire taking Mails to Wharf . ..	—	—	100 0	—
Repair of Post Offices, &c.	—	750 0	—	—
Waterproof bags	—	800 0	—	—
Printing ink	250 0	—	—	—
Iron Safes	—	—	200 0	—
Sorting divisions	—	—	—	1,212 0
No. 13.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.				
Alterations and Additions to Buildings.				
Wells, Galle Hospital	—	—	—	346 0
No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, &c.				
Wanarájah road (Government moiety) ...	—	187 50	—	—
Maskeliya road, Norwood Bridge to Maskeliya (Government moiety)	—	429 75	—	—
Maintenance of Roads, North-Central-Province ...	—	—	1 0	—
Irrigation Works, Udukiriwela	—	—	1,900 0	—
No. 15.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Treasurer.				
Expenses of Note Issue—England	25,080 0	—	—	—
Cost of counters on redemption of O. B. C. Notes ...	1,500 0	—	—	—
Surveyor-General.				
Register of Surveyed Lands	200 0	—	—	—
Trigonometrical Surveys	10,000 0	—	—	—

C.

LIST of UNEXPENDED BALANCES to be brought forward for expenditure in 1885.

SUPPLY-BILL, 1884.

No. of Estimate.	Date of Sanction.	Service.	Amount.
—	— ...	For the Kachchéri at Puttalam ...	Rs. 26,140
213	... February 5th ...	For repairs to Pérádeniya Bridge ...	5,084
502	... April 3rd ...	For thorough repairs to the valley wall gutters, Kandy Kachchéri ...	599
			Rs. 31,823

XIV.—1884.

VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.

A STATEMENT

SHOWING

THE DISTRICTS, PRESIDENTS, THEIR SALARIES, AND STAFFS, AND THE NUMBER AND THE NATURE OF THE CASES DISPOSED OF DURING THE YEAR 1883.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

RETURN showing the Names of Districts, Presidents, &c., and the Number of Cases instituted, decided, and in Appeal, under "The Village Communities Ordinance," throughout the Island, for the year 1883.

Districts.	Presidents.	Salaries.	Staff.	Cost of Staff per annum.	Institutions.			Decisions.											Appeals.			
										Civil.			Criminal.						To Government Agent.		From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council.	
					Civil.	Criminal	Amicable Settlements under section 23.	Breaches of V. C. Rules.	Irrigation.	Money.	Land.	By Consent.	Assault.	Theft.	Malicious Injury.	Cattle Trespass.	Maintenance.	Miscellaneous.	Confirmed.	Set aside.	Confirmed.	Set aside.
Western Province				Rs.																		
Aluthúru-kóralé South.																						
Gampaha	J. M. P. Pieris, Mudaliyár of the Governor's Gate	Rs 1,800 per annum including travelling allowance.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 do. at Rs. 10 each, 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, 2 do. at Rs. 5 each, 3 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each, and 1 do. at Rs. 3 per month.	1,296	235	260	54	16	8	224	4	—	84	31	89	4	2	—	19	2	1	—
Kanuwana					375	481	57	174	3	358	3	—	181	89	18	3	2	—	33	3	—	—
Ambatalenpahala					94	125	67	51	—	94	3	—	52	36	6	6	1	—	7	2	—	—
Wattala					72	95	54	47	—	61	—	—	26	17	5	8	—	—	4	1	1	—
Héwágam-kóralé.																						
Hagwella	L. C. De F. Samarakody, Mudaliyár	Rs. 1,600 per annum including travelling allowance.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, & 3 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each per month.	900	376	431	82	169	8	333	4	—	136	83	26	37	16	—	33	2	—	—
Nawagomuwa					293	279	36	74	—	188	3	—	108	83	4	43	5	—	10	—	—	—
Mulleriyáwa					99	91	12	28	—	92	—	—	22	36	—	7	2	—	13	—	—	—
Adikári, &c., Méda Pattus, Siyané-kóralé.																						
Mahara	D. A. E. Dias Bandaranayaka	Rs. 1,600 per annum including travelling allowance.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 Messengers at Rs 10 each, & 1 Sweeper at Rs. 5 per month.	780	355	502	213	150	1	322	1	—	110	73	6	—	5	—	11	1	—	—
Henaratgoda					607	624	268	97	2	501	6	3	163	162	3	—	12	—	10	—	—	—
Salpiti-kóralé.																						
Gaṇgodawila	D. A. A. Wijayasiṅha, Mudaliyár	Rs. 1,500 per annum including travelling allowance.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20, 1 Messenger at Rs. 10, and 2 Process Servers at Rs. 10 each per month.	600	425	840	150	145	10	415	10	53	257	170	6	151	6	150	25	2	1	—
Kégalla.																						
Máwanella	J. H. Girihagama	Do.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20, 1 Messenger at Rs. 10, and 2 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each per month.	480	916	702	232	247	17	863	53	3	127	168	22	97	29	—	47	1	—	—
Rambukkana					644	722	225	263	20	590	54	1	83	168	32	137	19	—	34	4	—	—
Dehiówiṭa	J. C. Molamuré	Do.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20, 1 Messenger at Rs. 10, 2 Sweepers at Rs. 5, and Rs. 2·50 per month.	450	692	504	338	53	—	686	6	2	10	22	3	4	3	—	12	3	2	—
Ruaṇwella					488	389	204	24	1	484	4	2	7	17	2	2	—	—	—	5	—	—
Bulatkohupiṭiya					266	131	91	3	—	263	3	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Ratnapura.																							
Higgashéna ...	E. F. Mapitigama ...	Rs. 1,500 per annum including travelling allowance.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20 and 1 Messenger at, Rs. 10 per month.	360	450	428	10	169	2	403	3	54	37	114	4	49	3	—	14	8	—	—
Minnana ...					283	253	5	132	1	331	3	32	24	66	3	16	6	—	13	6	—	—
Kiriella ...					209	105	4	47	1	195	1	11	13	26	1	15	—	—	2	2	2	—
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.																							
Wé-uḍawilli-hatpattu ...	B. D. Tenne ...	Rs. 800 and Rs. 360 as travelling allowance.	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 1 Court-keeper ..	510	1101	647	180	235	—	1170	18	1242	164	130	32	166	24	—	32	2	—	—
Wanni-hatpattu ...	S. E. Herat ...	Do. ...	2 Clerks, 2 Messengers and 2 Court-keepers ..	672	1928	1602	510	433	269	1618	17	—	82	66	2	199	16	—	52	8	—	—
Dewamḍi-hatpattu ...	J. C. Amarasekara ...	Do. ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 1 Court-keeper	510	1104	774	435	164	—	751	81	136	111	103	10	381	15	—	70	8	4	—
Kaṭugampola-hatpattu ...	R. B. W. Moonamale ...	Do. ..	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 2 Court-keepers ..	540	1625	796	25	228	1	2082	63	2589	129	122	22	365	25	—	7	1	—	—
Hiriyala-hatpattu ...	C. H. Moonamale .	Do. ...	1 Clerk, 1 Messenger and 2 Court keepers	414	1166	983	399	293	—	559	72	281	87	75	23	288	22	—	55	18	1	—
Dambadeni-hatpattu ...	J. H. Halpe ...	Do. ...	1 Clerk. 2 Messengers, and 2 Court-keepers ...	540	1178	1158	668	277	—	1108	20	—	131	153	—	504	26	—	25	9	—	—
Demala-hatpattu of the Puttaḷam District ...	R. A. H. Banda ...	Do. ...	1 Messenger ...	54	333	235	57	65	—	330	3	95	63	12	—	64	2	—	2	—	—	—
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.																							
Galle.																							
Bentoṭa-Walalláwiṭi-kóralé	Edmund Jayatileke ...	Rs. 1,100 and Rs. 360 travelling allowance	1 Clerk and 2 Peons ..	420	1283	780	313	365	—	1540	2	—	186	157	29	81	3	—	66	34	2	—
Hinidum-pattu and Mapalagama	Charles Goonetilaka ...	Rs. 1,100 and Rs. 360 travelling allowance	do. do. ..	420	612	364	77	85	—	549	38	4	94	131	8	48	8	—	44	7	5	1
Mátara.																							
Weligam-kóralé ...	R. R. Dunuwila ...	Rs. 1,100 and Rs. 360 travelling allowance.	do. do. ...	420	796	1326	310	385	25	790	6	8	536	313	31	—	36	—	38	9	1	—
Morowak-kóralé ..	C. A. Senewiratne ...	Do.	do. do. ...	420	1080	595	535	114	6	540	160	3	106	120	18	27	18	—	95	21	9	3
Gaṇgaboḍa-pattu ..	J. P. Goonatileka ...	Rs. 840 and Rs. 300 travelling allowance.	do. do. ...	420	1092	1216	332	453	—	1004	89	23	356	298	31	21	44	—	124	19	3	1
Wellaboḍa-pattu ...	J. D. C. Perera ...	Do	do. do. ...	420	1263	1444	575	345	9	885	225	28	301	193	42	10	38	—	107	27	4	2
EASTERN PROVINCE.		Rs.																					
Batticaloa North ...	Ebenezer Crowther ...	1,200	3 Clerks and 1 Messenger	450	2726	968	560	495	—	3068	2	506	222	193	12	60	67	—	6	4	—	—
Batticaloa South ...	M. Sidemparanather ...	1,200	3 Clerks and 2 Peons ...	720	2623	944	846	598	—	2769	4	538	162	63	7	11	83	—	22	—	—	—
Trincomalee.																							
Koddiar-pattu ...	M. Nannamuttu ...	1,000 ...	1 Clerk and 2 Peons ...	390	1430	348	462	227	—	1330	5	278	46	17	9	10	1	—	2	2	—	1
Kaḍḍukkuḷam-pattu ...					566	279	174	155	—	487	2	189	47	16	6	23	5	—	2	5	1	—
Tampalakam-pattu ...					856	111	229	53	—	802	1	97	29	8	1	1	4	—	1	—	—	—
CENTRAL PROVINCE.																							
Kandy.																							
Uḍunuwara ...	K. B. Kobbekaduwa ..	1,320 ..	2 Clerks and 2 Peons ...	420	419	826	336	123	9	219	72	28	145	103	150	25	35	—	36	6	—	—
Uḍa and Pata Dumbara ...	C. B. Nugawela ...	1,698 . .	1 Clerk and 2 Peons ...	540	1538	1519	56	525	75	1575	25	104	162	265	129	198	88	—	76	19	—	—

Districts.	Presidents.	Salaries.	Staff.	Cost of Staff per annum.	Institutions.		Amicable Settlements under section 28.	Decisions.											Appeals.			
					Civil.	Criminal.		Breaches of V. C. Rules.	Irrigation.	Civil.		By Consent.	Criminal.						To Government Agent.		From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council.	
										Money.	Land.		Assault.	Theft.	Malicious Injury.	Cattle Trespass.	Maintenance.	Miscellaneous.	Confirmed.	Set aside.	Confirmed.	Set aside.
Central Province—*contd.*																						
Badulla.		Rs.		Rs.																		
Uḍukinda ...	H. E. Dambawinna ...	1,220 ...	1 Clerk and 2 Peons ...	540	212	185	86	99	20	223	7	—	28	17	11	20	8	—	—	—	—	—
Mátalé.																						
Mátalé North ...	W. A. Dúlléwe ...	1,200 ...	do. do. ..	540	845	570	234	162	2	596	48	—	88	51	18	136	3	—	37	7	1	—
Mátalé East ...	S. Ratwatte / T. B. Aluwihara (acting)	1,200 ...	do. do. ...	396	888	589	167	—	—	789	25	59	220	104	45	115	19	—	32	12	3	—
Nuwara Eliya.																						
Uda Héwahęta ... / Walapane ...	T. B Madugalla, till 31st Aug. / T B. Rambukwelle, since	1,320 ...	1 Clerk and 1 Peon ...	468	573 / 327	390 / 348	143 / 153	124 / 77	— / —	481 / 278	— / 5	1 / 4	45 / 38	49 / 40	6 / 10	87 / 109	8 / 21	— / —	11 / 7	3 / 4	— / —	— / —
Kotmalé ...	W. D. Banda, till 31st July / W. P. Banda, since.	1,320 ...	do. do. ..	348	194	215	104	110	4	174	1	—	51	38	15	23	3	—	2	—	—	—
North-Central Province.																						
Nuwaragam Palata ...	T. B. Timbiriwewe ...	1,500 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Peons, and 6 Court-keepers ...	468	682	723	395	282	80	660	22	—	60	11	6	237	26	—	27	6	2	—
Hurulu Palata ...	U. E. K. S. M. Loku Banda.	1,500 ..	do. do. ...	504	465	641	237	323	70	447	18	—	43	7	16	169	7	—	18	10	—	—
Kalagam Palata ...	D. D. H. B. Ukku Banda	1,500 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Peons, and 7 Court-keepers ...	486	342	927	293	567	18	160	13	169	49	12	22	168	9	—	32	5	—	—
Tamankaḍuwa ...	E. M de Costa ...	780 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Peons, and 4 Court-keepers ...	570	167	27	—	—	8	—	156	2	—	14	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

XV.—1884.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION.

REPORT

ON THE

COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT OF THE HAMBANTOTA DISTRICT, SOUTHERN PROVINCE,

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF

THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE, 1878.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. VI. of 1883.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION

FOR THE

HAMBANTOṬA DISTRICT OF THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

1. The Hambantoṭa District consists of three principal headmen's divisions, known as Giruwá Pattu West, Giruwá Pattu East, and Mágam Pattu.

2. The Grain Tax Ordinance came into force in Giruwá Pattu (west and east) on the 1st January, 1884, under the Proclamation of the 22nd October, 1883, and in the Mágam Pattu under the Proclamation of the 14th March, 1884. Mr. Dawson began the work in Giruwá Pattu about the 1st of December, 1883, but went on leave to England on the 30th January, 1884. The rest of the District was commuted by me.

3. The results of the work are given in Appendix I. in the usual form, and in the further appendices will be found some notes made during the progress of the settlement relating to the agricultural condition, interests, and requirements of the District.

4. Under instructions from Government, all Crown lands were excluded from the settlement,* and not entered in the register.

5. The district price of paddy was fixed at Rs. 1 per bushel in both the Giruwá and Mágam Pattus.†

6. In the Giruwá Pattu the land measure was discovered to be a nehin amuna of forty kurunies, equal to four English bushels in capacity, sufficient to sow an extent of about two English acres. Further particulars regarding this will be found in Appendiv V. In the Mágam Pattu the kuruni was the only measure generally recognised and spoken of with any confidence, though the term amunam was also used to indicate indifferently forty-eight or forty kurunies. The settlement was accordingly carried out on the basis of the kuruni, and for the statistical purposes of this report I have taken two and-a-half acres English, as probably the most correct equivalent to forty-eight kurunies' sowing extent.

E. ELLIOTT,
Grain Commissioner.

Batticaloa, 6th November, 1884.

Appendix.

I.—ABSTRACT of Results of Commutation of the Hambantoṭa District.

	Giruwá Pattu West.	Giruwá Pattu East.	Mágam Pattu.	Total.
Number of villages	190	52	55	297
Do. parcels of land	8,218	790	660	9,668
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Extent of land	13,977	1,912	2,828	18,717
Extent paying one-third and one-fourth produce ...	15	—	—	15
Do. one-fifth produce	266	—	—	266
Do. one-tenth produce ...	13,696	1,912	2,828	18,436
Extent on which annual commutation is due ...	8,823	82	256	9,161
Do crop do.	5,154	1,830	2,572	9,556
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Amount payable as annual commutation ...	18,038	215	440	18,693
Do. crop do	9,198	3,375	4,650	17,223
Rate per acre for annual commutation ...	2·04	2·62	1·72	2·04
Do. crop do.	1·78	1·84	1·80	1·80
Average revenue derived annually by sale of Government share of crop.				
During last 14 years	22,267	2,316	2,360	26,943
Do. 7 years	24,869	2,217	2,656	29,742
During former 7 years	19,674	2,415	2,064	24,153

* Except a few divel fields. There are, I believe, not any other tenure fields in the Giruwá Pattu, such as exist in the Mátara District, in which the Crown has a limited interest.

† This is the same price as ruled in Mátara. But since the Ordinance came into force, the price of paddy, both in the Mátara and Tangalla markets has steadily risen till it reached Rs. 1·50 per bushel, and not much procurable at this rate. Rightly or wrongly, this is ascribed to the action of the Ordinance by the leading native residents It is said that under the old system the renters (many of whom were Moormen, who made a regular trade of dealing in rents), had to realize the large stocks of paddy which came into their hands within a short period. They were consequently obliged to be satisfied with a moderate return on their outlay, and this kept down the price of paddy. Now there are no large holders, and the Government share of the produce does not pass out of the hands of the villagers, who keep their paddy chiefly for home consumption, have it converted into rice by their women, and, only selling small quantities to meet immediate requirements as they arise, hold out for higher prices.

The supply of Coast rice in the Mátara market is small, and is almost *nil* in the Giruwá Pattu. So that there is practically no check on the price of the locally-grown grain. It is possible therefore the explanation given above correctly accounts for the increased selling-rate of paddy.

II.—Notes on Giruwá Pattu West.

Topography.—This division stretches along the sea-coast from Kemagoda to Ranna, a direct distance of twenty miles with a depth inland, varying from twenty-three miles on the western limit to fourteen on the eastern. The northern boundary of the Pattu is the Kolonná Kóralé of Sabaragamuwa. This division contains 190 villages sub-divided into sixteen tánáyama,* each under the charge of a Vidáne A'rachchi. The population at the last Census was 57,127, being an increase of over twenty-one per cent. on that of the previous decennial enumeration.

Through this division three main streams make their way to the sea, viz. :—

The Kahawatta-áru at Sínimódara.
The Kirama-áru at Tangalla.
Urubokke-áru at Ranna.

The first-mentioned rises in the hills on the western boundary, which receive a fair share of rain especially in the north-west monsoon, and at times it is a large and dangerous torrent, but in the dry weather it contains little or no water.

The Kirama-áru, owing to the construction of the well-known dam on the upper waters of the Mátara river, may be said to take its rise on the flanks of the Ramalékanda range.†

The Urubokke-áru, thanks to the equally well-known masonry dam (also on a branch of the upper waters of Mátara river) now receives an adequate supply of water from a higher valley in the Morawak Kóralé.

The average rainfall of these sources, and of various points in the Giruwá Pattu, has been determined to be as follows :—

		Inches.		On days.
Deniyaya‡	...	141	...	197
Kirama	...	96	...	158
Dandeniya§	...	81	...	119
Udukiriwila	...	82	...	122
Tangalla	...	57	...	78

Agriculture.—The total extent of asweddumized paddy land in Giruwá Pattu West is 7,060 amunams, equivalent to about 14,120 acres, of which 13,696 are in private hands, leaving only 434 acres to the Crown. The quantity of waste land capable of being asweddumized is also limited. Of the total extent, about 5,000 acres are said to be dependent for irrigation on the Kirama-áru, and about 5,700 on the Urubokke-áru ; but I think this area could be increased by a properly traced series of distribution channels, when a sufficient supply of water has been provided.

In the neighbourhood of Hakmana, in the Mátara District, are the remains of several large tanks, which, it is said, once irrigated all the land down to the sea at Tangalla. They were surveyed by the Dutch apparently with a view of restoration, but they now form valuable paddy lands in private hands, and their repair would entail a heavy charge for compensation. I did not hear of any large tanks in Giruwá Pattu West during my inquiries, but there are numerous village tanks scattered all through the division ; a list of 561 of these is given in the appendices of the Irrigation Committee's report of 1867. All are in bad order and neglected, without exception.

On the line of the Kirama and Urubokke streams numerous *amunas* are constructed in the usual native manner, liable to destruction by flood, and deficient in facilities for regulating the water. The Vidane A'rachchi of Walasmulla has constructed one masonry anicut, but on a very faulty plan, and it is a wonder it has not been carried away or turned.

Besides the Kirama and Urubokke‖ dams reconstructed by Sir H. Ward, the only work undertaken under Sir H. Robinson's scheme has been the Udukiriwila tank and supply channel, which was completed in 1874 at an expenditure of Rs. 74,229, and was intended to benefit about 2,500 acres.

Cattle are extensively used in cultivation, and also for threshing, but a good deal of tilling is done with the mamoty alone.

The chief kinds of paddy sown are Godamáwí, Karayal, Mahasudúwí, Mukalawí, Dhanahala, Bálawiti, Balamahawí, Balamarian, Mahamukalawí, Bálasuduwí, &c.

Revenue.—The average value of the Government share of paddy grown in this division has been Rs. 22,262¶ during the past 14 years, viz. :—Rs. 24,849 during the last 7 years, and Rs. 19,674 during the previous 7 years.

With so large an area insufficiently irrigated, the fluctuations in the revenue are very considerable, running from a maximum of Rs. 39,305 in 1879, down to Rs 16,569 in 1881.

For the future, a certain revenue of Rs. 18,038 has been secured as annual commutation, and out of the amount recoverable as crop commutation, Rs 9,198, it is expected two-thirds will become due in each year ; making a probable total revenue of say Rs. 24,000 per annum.

A considerable extent of the best land in the District is held by absentee proprietors, some members of the old Mátara families, and others rich Moormen of Dikwella. The latter have been in the habit of buying up at their own figures the rent of the villages in which they are interested. The rent sale returns of the past seven years show an increase over those of the previous seven, the respective averages being Rs. 24,849, against Rs 19,674, equivalent to an advance of Rs. 5,175, or 27 per cent., against an extension in the area cultivated of 12 per cent. Both these increments may, I think, be ascribed to the improved

---

* Literally rest-house ; also applied to division of a country surrounding a rest-house. I believe this use of the word is peculiar to the Giruwá Pattu.

† An important feeder of this stream was the Denagama-áru, till the construction of the tank of the same name for the benefit of the Mátara villages, just over the boundary.

‡ I have taken the Deniyaya return, as it probably more correctly represents the rainfall on the hills, the drainage of which is intercepted and turned into Giruwá Pattu, than the observation published as taken at Urubokke, a point some distance from the hills.

§ This is a station in the Mátara District, not far from the boundary, and probably represents fairly the rainfall in the hills amongst which the Kahawalla-áru takes its rise.

‖ For a very interesting history and account of these works, see Sir H. Ward's collected Speeches and Minutes, page 267.

¶ These figures include the value of the share of Government paddy lands cultivated on permits not included in the commutation.

demand and greater competition caused by a considerable influx of Galle and Mátara traders. These men have been, however, attracted chiefly by the chena products, which they buy up and export for sale, sending them even as far as Ambalangoda, where there is, I understand, a great dearth* of vegetables, &c. I frequently passed through Beliatte bazaar (which is the great centre of trade in Giruwá Pattu West) when the chena harvest was at its height, and I estimated on one occasion there were 100 double-bullock bandies waiting for loads. This will give an idea of the business done.

At Walasmulla, too, there is a large bazaar in which can be procured cotton goods, crockery, iron, shot, powder, lanthorns, thread, needles, pins, &c., for which there is apparently a brisk demand. At other central points bazaars are springing up, and there are signs of the development of the country and the material prosperity of the inhabitants. It is to be regretted, however, that these favourable conditions have been brought about and are mainly dependent on the extensive scale on which chena clearing is carried on and necessarily tolerated, until the regular cultivation of the extensive and fertile paddy fields of the Pattu is ensured, even in ordinary years, by a proper system of irrigation, for which the division presents special facilities.

Irrigation.—The importance, nay the necessity, for placing the irrigation of the Pattu on a satisfactory footing has been fully recognised at various times during the last 100 years. First, by our Dutch predecessors in 1787, in consequence of the extreme distress produced by a series of dry years, during which it was alleged that nine-tenths of the inhabitants died or quitted the country. This led to the construction of the Urubokke dam. The Kirama dam was constructed for similar reasons in 1826 by the English Government. In 1837 both these works were carried away by a flood of unusual violence; but though inspected and reported upon several times by various Government officers, nothing further was done until Sir H. Ward visited the Giruwá Pattu in 1858. His Excellency's impressions were vividly recorded in his Minute on the Southern Province. The immediate restoration of the Kirama and Urubokke dams was shortly after sanctioned and carried out on contract by Mr. Harrison, at a cost of over Rs. 190,000.

This important step led to extensive sales of Crown paddy fields in the villages situated on these two streams at high rates,† many residents of the Mátara District being amongst the purchasers. Consequent on this, efforts were made to put down chena clearing and to induce the people to apply themselves to paddy cultivation, but this was not successful, and drove the people to seek for "chenas in the Kolonná Kóralé and in the temple lands at Pandikulama."—Irrigation Report, p. 78.

The fact was, enough had not been done to render the cultivation of the fields easy or certain, and so far back as 1867 Mr. Birch showed the limited benefits accruing from the reconstruction of the Kirama and Urubokke dams, in the absence of facilities for storing the superfluous water turned by these works and not required for immediate requirements, as recommended by Mr. Harrison.

It is not surprising therefore to find that there was a recurrence of distress in the Pattu, which culminated in 1866, when the state of the District was placed on record by Mr. Steele in his report for 1867, in the following terms:—"That terrible season of drought and famine wrought grievous harm, decimating "the people and destroying flocks and herds The tanks, never filled from insufficiency of rain, were "speedily exhausted; the fields either were not cultivated or, if sown, bore scanty harvest; while the pas-"tures, which at the best of times have never a very luxuriant show of herbage, became parched and bare. "Desolation and distress were widely spread. Famine stalked abroad."

I was acting as District Judge of Tangalla in the first part of 1867, and can therefore speak personally of the extreme distress then still prevalent. Mr. Birch (the Assistant Agent of the District, and for a very short period Acting Government Agent of the Province) urged on Government the necessity for regularly proceeding with various irrigation works still required, but, as an immediate relief, was obliged on his own responsibility to permit chena clearing on an extensive scale.‡ At this time the people were most willing to co-operate in the restoration of their tanks, and a good deal of such work was done under Mr. Birch's supervision; but unfortunately he was removed to the Eastern Province before any permanent arrangements were made for placing irrigation on a proper footing; the co-operation of the people was lost; influences were brought to bear on them by designing persons of some standing to excite their fears against the water rate scheme promulgated by Sir H. Robinson. All this resulted in only one store tank on the line of the Urubokke being constructed; but nothing has been done where it was worse wanted, viz., in the Kirama valley. Meanwhile, the whole Pattu has become one huge chena, and a state of prosperity prevails based on the doubtful foundation of chena cultivation.

The present state of irrigation and the more pressing wants may be stated as follows:—

Urubokke river.—My inquiries go to show that no more storage is at present required in this water shed, but an improved mode of raising and distributing the available water is much needed.§ The stream is a rapid one liable to frequent and sudden floods which damage and carry away the native amunas or dams. Except that the river is a more powerful one to deal with, and the population is more scattered, and fewer in numbers, the case is identical with what I found existing in 1867 in the Mátara District, where now four anicuts, on approved engineering principles, and which cost Rs 45,803, have replaced 13 native amunas on the (Máara) Kirama stream.‖

Of the 29 villages under Udukiriwila, the cultivators of two villages (Ganéwela and Talunna), took crop-commutation, on the grounds of the difficulty of keeping up the amunas, and the people of nearly all the other villages had similar complaints to make; while the assessment from the 2,200 acres in this group liable to annual commutation only averages Rs. 1·80 per acre, though in some of the more favourably situated villages it runs up to a half more. Judging from the rent sale returns, Udukiriwila has apparently

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* In speaking about this with an intelligent native headman, he instanced, as showing the great demand now-a-days, that one could not get even a lime to wash one's head without paying for it, while formerly it could be got for the plucking

† Ludovici says £45 an acre for some lots, while the average was £15 per acre.

‡ Mr. Parsons, Acting Government Agent, Southern Province, wrote in his report for 1868:—"The very "stringent prohibition against chena cultivation has, in my opinion, worked prejudicially, and, but for the partial revival "of it in some districts, the people would have to starve."

§ An examination of the register of Udukiriwila tank for the past four years disclosed that the height of the water in any month rarely fell under three-fourths of the maximum depth (10 feet); and that when it did, it was generally re-filled to this extent within the calendar month. In April last the tank was very low and had only 6 feet of water, but the year was an exceptional one, and besides the small anicut on the Ville-áru was out of order.

‖ See Sessional Papers IV. of 1867, p. 97, for an account of native amunas.

not so far been as successful as it might be, and this may be attributable to the difficulty I have just specified.*

I understand that it is contemplated to put in head works for channels from the river, above the existing anicut, at present only utilized to fill Udukiriwila. Three or four more such anicuts, costing about Rs. 50,000, would probably suffice to meet all requirements, and possibly justify an increased assessment of Rs. 2,500 at the next revision.†

The Kirama stream has had no attention paid to it; all the native amunas are in a very bad state, and many of the usual sites so washed out as to render it impossible to continue the erection of the dams in the best suited localities. For instance, at Walasmulla—quite at the head of the cultivated valley—the old site had to be abandoned, and a fresh one sought further up, and the river dammed right across. The consequence is, the whole of the water, whether much or little, is turned on to the lands and most runs down another valley into Udukiriwila (where there is already water enough), and the villages lower down suffer accordingly.

Here, too, the immediate want is an improved system of raising the water of the main stream. With this view the erection of anicuts at suitable points should be first taken in hand as early as possible; and traces of improved channels from these laid out, which the people should be expected to open. By this means the existing supply of water could be made to go further.

The next step is to provide *additional storage* for water, as the Kirama dam only turns the superfluous rainfall of the Rammalékande range into the Giruwá Pattu, but does not conserve it.‡ Mr. Birch in his report suggested one or too sites for store tanks, but I believe these were examined and found not worth the expense of construction.

Engineers, I believe, consider that, with proper precautions, the Kirama reservoir might with safety be adapted at a small expense to store additional water to a depth of 8 or 10 feet over its present surface. This would be a valuable addition to the dry weather water supply of the Kirama valley. But before undertaking the construction of any more expensive stores, I would like to see the country examined with a view to the numerous village tanks being utilized as reservoirs, into which the water of the Kirama could be conducted by properly traced channels from the anicuts, built on the line of the stream itself, as already suggested. In Giruwá Pattu West there are no fewer than 561 tanks of sizes,§ about one-half of which are in the Kirama valley. Some probably lie too high to be reached by these channels, while others are small pótáwas, but a large number would doubtless be quite worth repairing on the system which has been, I believe, successful in Anurádhapura, viz., the earthwork by the people and the masonry by Government. In the aggregate, a considerable quantity of water could be stored in time by this means, as the tanks would ordinarily be replenished at least twice a year from the stream.

There is however one reservoir, the restoration of which should be undertaken at once by Government, on the usual terms of repayment; it is known as Maha Amuna, about one mile from Tangalla itself. Its spread is reported by the headmen to be 40 amunams (say 80 acres), with a depth of 10 feet at the outlet. The people have done a good deal of work on this embankment, and the District Road Committee for a time co-operated by adopting it as the line of road to Márakada; but it is breached nearly every year, and has been consequently abandoned by the Road Committee. The bund is practically across the Kiramaaru, and is designed to intercept every drop of water which comes down the stream. The work presents no engineering difficulties, but the bund wants thorough repair and strengthening, while sufficient provision must be made for the floods to run off without damaging the embankment; this has never yet been done and is the cause of the trouble which has been experienced. Properly repaired, I believe a reservoir would be formed of about 100 acres, with a 12-feet head capable of irrigating all the Tangalla fields (980 acres in extent), besides providing a certain supply of water for the use of the station.

At present 750 acres are cultivated under the amuna, but the average assessment came to only Rs. 1 per acre, and the owners of 280 acres elected to pay crop-commutation in view of the precarious water supply. A water rate of Rs. 1 per annum in perpetuity and the probable increase of Rs. 1 at the next assessment over the whole area, in view of the improved irrigation provided, would yield a return of Rs. 1,500, or 5 per cent. on a capital of Rs. 30,000, which would, I think, be sufficient to carry out this suggestion.

The probable cost of the works proposed in these Notes would be approximately as follows :—

4 anicuts on Urubokke stream	...	...	Rs. 50,000
5 Do. Kirama do.	...	...	„ 50,000
Tangalla tank ...	...	...	„ 30,000
Masonry for say 50 village tanks	...	...	„ 40,000
Contingencies, rock and masonry works on the channels, subordinate supervision, laying out, &c. (say)	...	...	„ 30,000
		Total ...	Rs. 200,000

* Udukiriwila was finished in 1873 and filled in February, 1874, and is reported to water 2,500 acres out of a total extent of some 3,000 acres lying in 29 villages. The rent sales of these villages have averaged during the respective periods indicated as follows :—

1870 to 1873	...	Rs. 4,281
1874 „ 1876	...	„ 5,937
1877 „ 1883	...	„ 4,758

† In this connection I may mention that the land-owners of Nętolpitiya and Pattipola (570 acres) asked me to call attention to the canal proposed by Messrs. Parsons and Birch to water their villages by a channel from Udukiriwila, in expectation of which they worked on their tank in 1867. I quote Mr. Birch as follows: "I propose further "to let the water pass through Udukiriwila tank to a fine line of country by an ancient canal, and water a large "extent of land in Bedigama, Nętolpitiya and Pattipola, by filling four good-sized tanks."—Irrigation Report, p. 86.

‡ The rainfall at Kirama is very heavy in October, November and December (35 inches), but this runs off instead of being stored to meet the shortcomings of the next two months, when the fall is under 8 inches. In like manner, May and June, bring about 20 inches, none of which is stored. As in the wet months at Kirama, rain is more or less general throughout the valley, the water turned by the dam is then of little use.

§ A complete list of these is given at page 310 of Sessional Paper IV. of 1867.

The works should be spread over 4 or 5 years, and if the residence of the Superintending Officer of the Public Works Department was removed to Taṇgalla, he could supervise the work without interfering with the other very light duties of his post.*

The probable return.—With the existing drawbacks, there is raised in Giruwá Pattu West from 200,000 to 250,000 bushels of paddy, but the proper irrigation of the 11,000 acres dependent on Kirama and Urubokke should ensure a crop of certainly 330,000† bushels from this area alone. Adding to this the produce of the remaining 3,000 acres, I am by no means taking a sanguine view in estimating a total annual production, from the paddy lands of Giruwá Pattu West, of at least 150,000 bushels over the average of the present crops. The value of the increased tythe on this would be Rs. 15,000 per annum. This sum (without any water rate which it may be thought proper to impose in any special case, as for instance on account of the Taṇgalla tank), would represent a return of 7½ per cent. on the Rs. 200,000, approximately estimated as the required outlay, or 5 per cent. supposing the expenditure to reach the sum of Rs. 300,000, which is not, I think, likely.

III.—Notes on Giruwá Pattu East.

Topography.—This division has a sea-board of about 8 miles, and extends inland for 24 miles to the borders of the Kolonná Kóralé ; but the interior portions are thinly populated, and the chief agricultural interests are confined to the Kanukeṭiya sub-divisions, through which the high road to Hambantoṭa passes.

The *Kachchi-galára* runs through the western portion of the division, and the *Walawé* is the eastern boundary. The former rises some miles in the interior, is a small stream, and becomes dry soon after the local rains have ceased. There are several tanks on this line, but they are all in bad order. The *Walawé*, on the other hand, is a large river rising in the Peak range, and has never been known to become dry, but at present a very limited use is made of this splendid water-supply.

The *population* was found to be 8,950 by the last census, and showed an increase of 10 per cent. on the previous enumeration. The number of villages is 52, but many of these are exceedingly small.

Agriculture.—The asweddumized area is 1,912 acres, but there is a very large extent of Crown land, (a little of it cultivated on license), for which there is at present no demand, though possibly one would arise if it could be irrigated. Owing to cultivation being mainly dependent on the rainfall, conserved to a small extent in imperfect tanks, the average extent annually tilled is about 800 acres, but over 300 of this is in two villages (Tavaluwila and Weḷipatanvila) at the mouth of the Walawé. In 1881, owing to an extremely adverse season, only 123 amunas (say 250 acres) was sown, of which one-half was in these two more favoured villages, and the Government share realized Rs. 310. The 62 amunams sown in the rest of the Pattu only brought in Rs. 144, so that there must have been a large proportion of failure. The maximum was, on the other hand, 1,750 acres, bringing a revenue of Rs. 5,577 to Government in 1878, which shows what the people are able and willing to do, if water were available.

I am indebted to the Mudaliyár of the Pattu for the following information regarding the kinds of paddy generally sown. They are :—

1. Mahasuduví, which matures in	4	months.	5. Mahasuduví, which matures in	4	months.
2. Balamukalaví	Do.	3½ ,,	6. Kaharamana	Do.	5 ,,
3. Dhanahala	Do.	3 ,,	7. Kuruví	Do.	4 ,,
4. Bálasuduví			8. Balamarian	Do.	3½ ,,

1. Mahasuduví yields ten-fold, grains brown, gives 50 per cent. rice.
2. Balamukalaví yields ten-fold, is the kind most used by the cultivators of both the divisions of Kanukeṭiya, grains both black and white, gives 50 per cent. rice.
3. Dhanahala yields eight-fold, grains white and black, has awns, rice less than the abovenamed kinds of paddy.
4. Balasuduví yields ten-fold, grains white.
5. Mahasuduví yields ten-fold, grains white, has awns, gives 50 per cent. rice.
6. Kharamana yields ten-fold, grains brown, gives 50 per cent. rice.
7. Kuruví yields ten-fold, grains brown, gives 50 per cent. rice.
8. Balamarian yields eight-fold, grains whitish, has awns, rice less than in all the abovenamed kinds of paddy.

The revenue realized by the sale of Government share of paddy has fluctuated from Rs. 470 in 1881 to Rs. 5,577 in 1878. The averages have been as under :—

For the past	14 years	...	Rs 2,333
Do.	7 years	...	,, 2,251
Do. previous	7 years	...	,, 2,415

With the exception of 82 acres in the Walawé villages already specified, the proprietors of the rest of the lands elected to pay crop-commutation. To arrive at the proper rate to be fixed in such cases was no easy matter in view of the specially adverse circumstances of the country, and the paucity of trustworthy data. The custom has been to cultivate more or less land, rarely the whole of a field, according to the rainfall of the season, and take the crop matured. This has been liable to such fluctuations that it was impossible to get any evidence as to the average annual yield of paddy in those years in which any particular land had produced a crop. The only information on which any reliance could be placed under the circumstances was—

(*a*) The total area asweddumized in each village.
(*b*) The total area cultivated in each village in each year.
(*c*) The amount realized by the sale of the Government share.

The 16th clause of the Ordinance lays down that the crop-commutation fixed by the Commissioner becomes payable every year in which the land produces a crop, "three-fold at least on the quantity of paddy sown." It became necessary therefore to take into consideration the fact, that frequently only portions of

* There is a good gravelled minor road up the Kirama valley, which renders the supervision of the work on that line easy. None of the works on the Urubokke stream, too, would be more than six miles from Ronna.

† This estimate proceeds on the basis of an average return of tenfold over the whole area, and a second cultivation of half. My calculations for the Mátara works were based on similar data, and experience has shewn they were under the mark. The maximum rate of assessment fixed by me in the Kirama valley was Rs. 2·20 per acre, and on the Urubokke Rs. 2·40 per acre. In Mátara the assessment on the irrigated lands ran up to double these figures.

fields are cultivated. After a very careful examination of the statistics available and the circumstances of each village, I endeavoured to fix rates which will, I trust, be just to the landowners and yet secure Government a fair revenue for the future. The crop-assessment has accordingly worked out to Rs. 3,375 for an extent of 1,630 acres, or Rs. 7·84* per acre. On the other hand, the average cultivation is only about 830 acres, giving an average revenue of Rs. 2,217, but I expect the disproportion between these figures will be made up by the inducement held out to cultivate a larger area in future, as the same assessment will be due, whether the whole field or only a portion (as heretofore) has been tilled.

Irrigation.—There are said to be 123 tanks in the Giruwa Pattu East, most of which are small and assist the cultivation of but a limited area. They are chiefly situated in the Wewgama and Paranegama Walakadas in the interior, which are more hilly, and probably receive more rain, than falls nearer the coast. These tanks are not worth spending any money on, but I think it would be decidedly to the advantage of Government to supply a sluice and any other required masonry (provided that the people did the necessary earthwork) for the following larger tanks :—

		Probable Spread.	Total extent of Land in the Village.
(1)	Meṭigatwala	24 acres	... 80 acres.
(2)	Mahasiyambálákotuwa ...	24 „	... 58 „
(3)	Alutwewa	60 „	... 90† „
(4)	Uḍakanuketiya	20 „	... 82 „
(5)	Pallé Kanuketiya	20 „	... 120 „
(6)	Lunama	16 „	... 83‡ „
(7)	Mini Eṭiliya (Mahawewa) ...	32 „	... 173 „
(8)	Beminiyanwila	32 „	... 57 „

These tanks are situated in a part of the country which ordinarily receives a fair share of rain during the north-east monsoon, especially in October, November, and December. Cultivation for Maha can be, and is consequently, commenced with the earliest rains, and if the tanks were only in a condition to store a fair portion of the rainfall of these months, they would come to the rescue during January and February, which are much drier. The chances of securing one crop would thus be much improved, and nothing more can be done for the country, short of the Walawé scheme to be referred to presently.

The Walawé river is now only utilized on a very limited scale for irrigational purposes for the benefit of about 200 acres in the villages of Welepatanwila and Tawalawila in Giruwá Pattu East, and for 500 acres on the other bank in the Mágam Pattu. In these villages are certain *potawas* or reservoirs, into which the waters of the Walawé are conducted and impounded for subsequent use. There is no difficulty in doing this when the river rises in flood, but water is often required in the dry months. Fortunately when this is the case, the stream is generally low and sluggish, and, the south-west being on at the same time, the mouth of the river becomes contracted by the sand thrown up by the sea. At this juncture the landowners on both banks come to the aid of Nature, and generally succeed in completing the barrier of sand, thus closing the mouth altogether and banking up the water coming down the river to a height sufficient to irrigate their fields, and to fill the reservoirs § The first fresh down the river of course re-opens the mouth. It is, I should say, impossible to design any works to aid this unique system of irrigation, but assistance might be rendered, and money well expended, in providing masonry inlets (and possibly exit sluices) for the reservoirs, of which there are thirteen in Giruwá Pattu East and nine in Mágam Pattu.

The Walawé scheme was pressed on me by the people, and I was asked to bring it again to the notice of Government. It was originally proposed by Mr. Birch, and very fully discussed in his reports printed in the Sessional Paper IV. of 1867. (See specially p 86 and p. 182). Shortly, his proposal was to construct an anicut across the Walawé, at a point some ten miles from its mouth, and to repair certain channels for conducting its waters to the head of the Kachchigalla-áru valley. Mr. Molesworth visited the river and reported that he had selected "a point some miles up as admirably adapted for the construction of the proposed works, having a few ledges of rocks extending nearly across the bed of the river, and there are evident remains of an old irregular channel near the spot, which seem to indicate that it has been selected for the purposes of irrigation." A further professional examination was promised, but on recent enquiry I cannot find that this was ever carried out. If this is undertaken, and it is shewn the work is feasible at a moderate expenditure, it seems to me to have other elements of success. Besides ensuring the regular cultivation of a large extent of land already asweddumized, it will probably bring in a considerable area of waste land—Crown property. As regards population, there is a resident one of about 9,000 and there is a much larger population close at hand in Mátara and the Giruwá Pattu West, already rather crowded, seeking for an outlet and in the habit of coming to this part of the country, which has not the reputation for unhealthiness attached to the Mágam Pattu by the people of these districts.

IV.—Notes on the Mágam Pattu.

Topography.—This Pattu extends along the sea-coast from the mouth of the Walawé river for a distance of 55 miles, stretching inland to a maximum depth of 20 miles, and has a superficial area of about 500 square miles. Except, however, in the town of Hambantoṭa and in the villages in the banks of the Walawé, the population is very scattered and small. It was found by the Census of 1881 to be 5,850, but this included 511 Tamil coolies employed as labourers, so that the real resident population was 5,339. Of

* This average is run up by the higher assessment of Rs. 2·40 per acre I felt justified in imposing on the crop-commuted fields in the Walawé villages, which are very fertile, and the cultivation in these two villages much more assured It is probable that nearly 200, out of the 238 liable to crop-commutation, will be on an average cultivated once a year, but I could not induce the people to take annual commutation.

† Mr. Birch believed that the Urubokke water could be led from Bógamuwa to this tank, and thence into the Kochchigalla-áru If so, it would improve the water-supply of 4 and 5 in the above list. As the Urubokke stream is frequently in flood all times of the year, it would be well to have the line of country indicated examined.

‡ Complaint was made by the Lunama people that the bund of their tank had been utilized for the road to Hambantoṭa, and they were prevented retaining as much water as they might, on the ground that it endangered the roadway. The complaint appeared to me to be well-founded, and I think a small expenditure would reconcile the conflicting interests.

§ There is always, I am assured, some water coming down the river, sufficient to keep the estuary sweet right down to the sea.

this total, 2,045 resided in the town, and (deducting the alien Tamils * incidentally in the Pattu at the time of enumeration) the population of the rural parts has apparently fallen to 3,439, from 3,599 in 1871. The Walawé sub-division shows an increase of about 8 per cent., but in all the other villages there is apparently a decrease.†

The rivers are the Walawé on the western boundary, and the Kombukan-áru on the eastern. The Kirinde-áru cuts across through the centre of the Pattu and reaches the sea at Kirinde, and the Kattregam river or Menik-ganga, some miles further up the coast.

Agriculture.—There is an immense extent of land fit for paddy cultivation, if water and population could be provided. The asweddumized area in private hands is only about 2,848‡ acres, and the average extent cultivated is about 1,100 acres, yielding an average revenue of Rs. 2.263. With the exception of a small extent (16 acres) in the Walawé, and 240 acres at Tihawe, the proprietors of the rest of the lands in the Pattu elected to pay crop-commutation. The same difficulty arose here as in the Giruwá Pattu East at arriving at a fair assessment, and was met in the same manner. It has resulted in a commutation of Rs. 4,650 over 2,572 acres, or Rs. 1·80 per acre.§

The communal system is in full force in the Mágam Pattu amongst the Sinhalese villagers, and the lands were all registered as the common property of the village. This is specially kept up in the western Walakada (on the banks of the Walawé), where the inhabitants are all of the dhoby caste, and claim to be descendants of one Nila Maha Yódayá, to whom it is alleged seven villages here (besides some in the Kolonná Kóralé) were granted by Parákrama Bahu for services rendered in his wars.‖

The cultivation of the lands in these villages is in *tattumáru*, but in one village (Beragama) any member of the seven villages may erect his "yota"¶ sticks, and thus secure a certain extent on each side for cultivation that season.

Irrigation.—The villages at the mouth of the Walawé are irrigated from the river in the method described above in the notes on the Giruwá Pattu East. Here, too, aid ought to be given to improve the inlets of the reservoirs, of which there are nine. The tradition is that these villages were at one time irrigated from Pandikulam, which in its turn was filled from an anicut at Kalutota, high up the Walawé river.** There is not much chance of the restoration of this magnificent scheme being ever taken up, but when the more modest one proposed by Mr. Birch for utilizing the waters of the Walawé comes to be worked out, the possibility of serving the villages on the eastern bank should not be overlooked.

The additions undertaken to Tissawa and the connected works on the Kirinde-oya have been just completed. Under this scheme 350 acres have been assessed, viz.:—

		Rs.	cts.
240 for annual commutation yielding a revenue of		407	20††
110 for a crop	„	195	90
	Total — Rs.	603	10

The people of Mágama complained that their water-supply was interfered with and reduced by the Tissa works. I concur with Mr. Williams that they have a claim to be provided with a channel from Maha Dehi-iriya, as explained in his last annual report.

There are a large number of village tanks in the Mágam Pattu, but they are mostly very small and in exceedingly bad order; the population is so scattered and limited that it could not be relied on for much co-operation in their improvement. One exception came under my own notice, viz., the tank at *Migaha Kandura*, the bund of which is in fair order, and where an improved sluice would be a boon. *Witravila* is a good tank, and the village said to be one of the most productive in Magam Pattu; the village has passed into Malay hands, and the proprietor is a man of intelligence and education (a Government employé), who should be induced to improve the tank.‡‡ As it is important to increase the settlers at *Búndala*, who are in the dry weather employed in the salt works, some effort should, it seems to me, be made to assist those now resident there in the cultivation of their fields in the north-east moonsoon, when their services are not required in the salt works, and when there is generally a good deal of rain.§§ There is a stream, too, which runs into the sea at Búndala and drains a considerable extent of country, and though it dries in the hot weather it might be turned to account in the wet months to fill some of the tanks and store a small

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* There were only 188 Tamils in the Hambantota District in 1871, of whom 110 resided in the town of Hambantota. In 1881 these were 136 resident in the town, and 356 in the rural part of the Mágam Pattu, or 492 in all, employed as follows: labourers 127, agricultural labourers 223, others including children 142. Owing to the presence of these persons, the population of Tihawe is shown at 473. It was about one-tenth of this when I was there.

† Thus Mágam and Kirinde from 313 to 280, Búndala from 361 to 331. The figures from Tihawe show an increase due to the temporary residence of the Tamil labourers.

‡ Besides this there is a further extent of Crown land in old abandoned villages, a little of which is cultivated with paddy in a favourable year.

§ This is within 4 cents of the result for Giruwá Pattu East. Each assessment was based on independent inquiry and separate figures. It was only on working out the completed assessment, that I became aware that the results were so nearly the same.

‖ The tradition related to me was as follows:—The king, being a very powerful man, had a *yagadáwa* (immense iron club) which no one could even lift except himself. One day His Majesty, observing this massive weapon had been moved from where he had left it, demanded who had done this. No one knew, but at length it was discovered that a strong dhoby boy (who had followed his mother to the palace) had been seen about the place, and on being sent for he admitted he had moved the royal club. The boy was taken into the king's employ and accompanied him to battle, where he so distinguished himself by his strength and prowess, as to receive as reward the villages specified.

¶ Or scoop, which is hung from a tripod formed of three jungle sticks, and used for raising the water from the swamp to the higher portion under cultivation.

** Further information regarding this will be found at page 152, Sessional Paper IV., and report by Mr. J. F. Dickson to Colonial Secretary of 11th October, 1871, and by Captain Woodward of 3rd November, 1871. (These two reports have not been printed, I believe.)

†† This excludes Rs. 40·80 from 20 acres, which it is claimed was granted free of tax to the Tissamaharáma wihare. The claim is under the consideration of the Government Agent.

‡‡ A vote was taken in 1869 for this work, but I presume it was not expended in view of certain disputes as to the ownership, only lately definitely decided.

§§ Between 1st October and 31st December there was a fall of 30 inches at Ellawala, the nearest point at which observations are taken.

supply of water, to bring the crops to maturity after the cessation of the rain. Experience in Batticaloa has shown that the quantity to be stored for this purpose need not be large. I understand some surveys were made some years ago in this neighbourhood by an officer of the Public Works Department, but more was probably aimed at than I have now suggested, and hence the cost of the works proposed was found to be prohibitive. This is a case where relief, if practicable at a reasonable cost, should be granted without expecting any immediate return on the outlay.

V.—Memorandum on Measures of Sowing Extent used in Giruwá Pattu.

In the Giruwá Pattu the bushel is practically an unknown measure, and only used by a few boutique keepers in the larger bazaars, and sowing extent is never expressed in this denomination. The terms of quantity used by landowners in their communications and dealings with each other and their cultivators are amunams, pélas and kurunies, while the only actual existing measure is the "kuruni." There was however a vague idea abroad that the amunam was equivalent to six bushels English. Consequently when the headmen received the printed forms in which to enter the lands liable to assessment and found the headings were expressed in bushels, they transmuted the recognized sowing extents at the rate of six bushels to the amunam and eight kurunies to the bushel.

This action of the headmen led to much misunderstanding, especially in the interior of the Pattu, but after a good deal of careful research I found that there have been in the past two amunams in existence, known respectively as the (*a*) *wási amunam* of 48 kurunies, and (*b*) *nehin amunam* of 40 kurunies; also that the *wási* is recognized as equivalent to 1½ *nehin*. I obtained specimens of the kurunies actually used, and found on measurement that as near as possible 1-48th of a wási amunam = ⅛ bushel = 3 heaped measures or seers; and that 1-40th of a nehin amunam = 1-10th bushel = 2½ heaped measures or seers. (N.B.—1 bushel = 24 heaped measures.

The information I have received shows that the nehin amunam is the old original standard of sowing extent, while the wási was restricted to the calculations of grain in bulk, though of course seed paddy was issued in accordance with the known sowing extent. Gradually the inconvenience of having two measures has led to the nehin amunam falling practically into disuse. The traditional sowing extent is still however handed on in deeds, Kachchéri records, headmen's lists, &c., without its being specified that it is expressed in the now nearly forgotten nehin amunam of 40 small kurunies; but when any question arises as to the discrepancy, it is met by the explanation, "Oh, that is the old sowing extent, but we now sow so many kurunies." This means that the nominal and traditional extent is in parts of a nehin amunam, while the quantity of paddy now sown is measured by parts of a wási amunam.

I cannot help suspecting that this double standard is partly kept up with a view of cheating absentee proprietors who, ignorant of the real sowing extent of their field, supply a wási amunam of seed paddy where a nehin amunam would suffice.

Having satisfied myself as to the existence of this dual measurement, whenever questions of sowing extent arose I avoided using the term bushel; and discussing the question in amunams and kurunies, generally arrived at a satisfactory settlement with the objector. I have also made the entries in the registers in amunams and kurunies, following the traditional and recognized sowing extent, and refusing to allow it to be disturbed. To do otherwise would have led to endless confusion, as it is, I am satisfied, impossible for the most experienced assessor or headmen to estimate the sowing extent of land with any degree of accuracy by simply viewing the ground. On the other hand, the traditional extents entered in the Kachchéri and headmen's records are the result of enquiries extending over a series of years, made when no question of taxation dependent on area was at issue.

The fact established by my enquiries admits further of the area by survey being reconciled (in accordance with other recognized results) with the traditional sowing extent, as follows:—

1 amunam *nehin* = 40 kurunies of 2½ measures
= 4 bushels (practically.)
1 amunam *wási* = 48 kurunies of 3 measures.
= 6 bushels.

Working on this basis, it is found that the acre is the approximate equivalent of two bushels' sowing extent, as in the adjoining district of Mátara.

In parts of the Múgam Pattu, I found the term *nehin* amunam used to denote forty kurunies, while forty-eight kurunies went to make up a *wási* amunam. It was alleged that the kuruni used was the same in both cases; but I did not go into the question, as the assessment was here conducted on the basis of the kuruni. Except the Malay proprietors and the holders of new lands at Tihawa, no one had a very clear idea of the relation of the amunam to the bushel.

E. ELLIOTT,
Grain Commissioner.

Batticaloa, 6th November, 1884.

RETURN of Rainfall at various points in and around the Hambantoṭa District.

	TAṆGALLA.		DENAGAMA.		KIRAMA.		DENIYÁYA.		URUBOKKA.		UDUKIRIWILA.		HAMBANTOṬA.		TISSAMAHARÁMA.		ELAGALA.	
	1883.	Means for 11 years.	1883.	Means for 7 years.	1883.	Means for 11 years	1883.	Means for 4 years.	1883.	Means for 8 years.	1883.	Means for 11 years.	1883.	Means for 4 years.	1883.	Means for 11 years.	1883.	1883.
January	3·53	3 05	5·05	23·13	4·72	3·97	8·82	3·34	6·35	1·38	2·73	3·04	8·73	2·30	6·33	1·93	7·75	6·66
February	·09	2·48	5·00	2·56	6·19	4·02	7·65	9·59	4·90	5·09	5·00	3·85	1·23	1·06	2·27	1·71	4·39	3·10
March	8·34	2·70	7·20	7·84	5·51	7·35	8·08	9·22	10·50	5·28	5·59	6·52	2·49	2·86	8·34	4·03	6·23	1·14
April	·80	4·19	4·55	8·38	6·85	7·18	16·17	7·63	4·95	8·35	4·49	5·53	1·49	·89	2·84	3·85	1·62	5·00
May	9·50	8·14	16·00	35·31	10 21	11 63	16·19	17·42	10·95	7·87	8·25	10·02	4·09	2·61	4·65	3·85	3·80	5·35
June	4·16	6·00	14·10	11·73	7·60	8·65	5·14	9·84	5·55	5·79	4·50	7·17	1 67	·78	·76	1·35	2·23	1·36
July	5·95	3·76	9 65	11·17	9 92	5·95	14·79	11·55	11·35	1·70	4·37	5·72	1·44	1·55	2·47	·72	2·48	2·08
August	2·36	3·03	7 75	8·81	8·23	6·44	22·83	13 23	9·70	·43	2·89	4·69	·42	·56	2·35	1·26	·78	1·88
September	4·27	4·84	9·25	9·74	7·46	7·39	—	8·84	8·15	6 16	2 86	5 18	·55	1·56	·66	1·95	·60	·10
October	3·52	6·46	12·25	15·73	10·45	10·30	13·71	14·05	5·75	8·46	6·73	8·99	7·98	3·13	8·58	7·52	1 04	11·65
November	9·62	7·73	10·85	11·13	14·58	13·43	23 33	21·84	10·75	13·71	13·45	12 82	4·78	5·52	6·73	7·51	11·83	11·81
December	·10	5·36	1·20	10·80	9 18	10·11	13 85	14·61	11·10	9·06	2·58	9 07	—	3·87	4·91	58	·50	9·70
Total ...	52·24	57·74	102·85	156 33	100 90	96·42	151 27	141·16	100·00	73·28	63·44	82·60	34·87	26·69	50·89	36·46	50·35	59·83

XVI.—1884.

BILL TO TRANSFER SCHOOLS TO MUNICIPALITIES.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English Language is taught."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 12th November, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of Schools in which the English Language is taught."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS,
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET,
} Unofficial Members.

BILL TO TRANSFER SCHOOLS TO MUNICIPALITIES.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report upon an Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to authorize Municipal Councils and Local Boards of Health to provide for the maintenance of schools in which the English Language is taught," have the honour to report as follows :—

The Committee note that the principle of the Bill is in accordance with the Resolution on the question passed in Council on Monday, February 11, 1884 ; but they consider that the powers to be given to Municipal Councils and Local Boards should be limited to existing schools, and that some necessary safeguards against inefficient and extravagant management of the schools should be introduced : and to this end they make the following suggestions :—

Preamble.—To be limited to existing Government schools, of which a schedule is attached to this report, and to omit provision for rates.

Clause 2.—To omit "either now or hereafter."

Clause 3.—To make the schools chargeable to the Municipal or Local Board funds, and not to an educational rate.

Clause 4.—Omit this clause, and provide instead that the schools are to be maintained out of the Municipal or Local Board funds only, so long as they are subjected to the rules in force from time to time for grant-in-aid schools, and are certified by the Government Inspectors to be efficiently and economically conducted.

The Government Agent, Western Province, does not concur in the Resolution to permit the Municipalities to take over the Government schools, without at the same time allowing them to levy a rate for the purpose.

The Sub-Committee report the Bill as amended.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
F. FLEMING.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
A. L. DE ALWIS.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 24th November, 1884.

SCHEDULE.

Colombo Boys'	Pettah Infant	Gampola Boys'
Grandpass Boys'	Kalutara Boys	Badulla Boys'
Maradána Boys'	Galle Central	Badulla Girls'
Female Seminary	Galle Lower Central	Puttalam Boys'
Do. (Infant School)	Galle Girls'	Puttalam Girls'
Colombo Girls'		

XVII.—1884.

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 19th November, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. P. A. TEMPLER, Acting Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, }
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD, }

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES BILL.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Laws relating to Village Communities and Village Tribunals," have the honour to report as follows :—

The Committee notice that clause 3 and part of clause 2 are a repetition of directions already contained in clause 7 of Ordinance No. 26 of 1871.

The Committee have given careful consideration to clause 2, and, while recognising the difficulty which it is designed to meet, consider that its form should be altered to overcome the objection which has been taken to it as it stands, that the Legislative Council cannot properly give undefined power to any other authority to vary any of the provisions of the existing laws of the Colony.

The Committee consider that the difficulties which have been experienced, and the objection which has been taken, can both be met by enacting that a rule made in the manner prescribed by the Ordinance 26 of 1871, when approved by the Governor in Executive Council, shall be valid, anything in the Ordinances enumerated in Schedule A. hereto annexed to the contrary notwithstanding.

Clause 4.—The Committee recommend the addition of the following words : "or to breaches of such rules together with the exercise of civil jurisdiction abovementioned, or to breaches of such rules together with the exercise of criminal jurisdiction abovementioned."

The Committee recommend the insertion after clause 5 of a new clause as follows :—

"It shall be lawful for the Government Agent from time to time to appoint such person as he may think fit to be the Chairman of a Village Committee ; provided that if the Chairman so appointed shall be absent at any meeting of such Committee the members of the Committee who shall be present, not being less than four, may select and appoint a Chairman for such meeting."

Clause 7.—The powers should be limited to imposing a fine, and, if the fine be not forthwith paid, to sentencing the offender to imprisonment as provided.

In *clause* 10 the Committee recommend the insertion of the following :—

"And it shall be lawful for the Government Agent, at any time, of his own motion to call for and examine the record of any case, whether already tried by or pending trial before any Village Tribunal or Village Committee, for the purpose of satisfying himself as to the propriety of any decision, order, or sentence passed therein, or as to the propriety of the proceedings of such tribunal or committee, and, upon consideration of any case so brought before him, to pass any decision, order, or sentence which he might have passed had the case come before him in due course of appeal. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize the Government Agent to increase any sentence passed, or to interfere with any acquittal, by any such tribunal or committee."

In *clauses* 10 *and* 12 slight verbal alterations indicated in the Amended Draft are suggested.

In *clause* 13 it is proposed to insert, "and for regulating the sale and removal of cattle."

On *clause* 14 the Committee are divided.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
P. A. TEMPLER.
JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
A. L. DE ALWIS.

Legislaive Council Chamber,
1st December, 1884.

SCHEDULE A.

Ordinances which may conflict with rules under Ordinance 26 of 1871, Ordinance 12 of 1880, and Ordinance 8 of 1882.

Ordinance No. 12 of 1840	Ordinance No. 14 of 1859	Ordinance No. 6 of 1872
" " 14 of 1840	" " 10 of 1861	" " 7 of 1873
" " 4 of 1841	" " 12 of 1862	" " 12 of 1876
" " 1 of 1844	" " 15 of 1862	" " 6 of 1878
" " 10 of 1844	" " 16 of 1865	" " 11 of 1878
" " 6 of 1846	" " 19 of 1866	" " 2 of 1883
" " 6 of 1850	" " 14 of 1867	" " 3 of 1883

XVIII.—1884.

SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1884."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 3rd December, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1884."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. G. W. PATERSON, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. F. C. H. CLARKE, R.A., C.M.G., Surveyor-General.
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD,
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS,
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET,
} Unofficial Members.

SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1884.

REPORT.

THE Committee appointed to consider the Supplementary Supply Bill for 1884 beg to report as follows:—

No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

I.—CIVIL.

SECRETARIAT.

Under this head a sum of Rs. 3,000 is required to provide for the cost of telegrams which were necessitated by the failure of the Oriental Bank Corporation, and succeeding circumstances.

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.

In consequence of the suspension of the Oriental Bank Corporation it has been found necessary to provide treasuries in the Northern and Central Provinces, the expenses incurred being Rs. 1,297·08 and Rs. 1,337·50 respectively.

SERVICES, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

No. 3.—REVENUE SERVICES.

COLLECTION OF SALT.

This is the largest item in this Bill, and amounts to Rs. 106,740·92. The prolonged drought has acted beneficially as regards the manufacturing and collecting of salt, and this item may be classified as distinctly reproductive expenditure.

GRAIN.

Rs. 9,000 is required under this head on account of the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance into the Southern Province.

CINNAMON.

The Government having undertaken the cultivation of the gardens in the Western Province, instead of leasing them as has been heretofore the case, the sum of Rs. 4,920 has been rendered necessary to provide for their proper upkeep and the usual operations connected with the peeling and protection of the bark.

PEARL FISHERY.

Consequent upon two small fisheries at Chilaw during the current year, a sum of Rs. 7,816·91 has been expended. This also may be considered as a highly reproductive work.

TIMBER.

Rs. 8,395 are required to cover the actual expenses incurred in the Western and North-Western Provinces. Of the timber dealt with, part was required by the Ceylon Government Railway, and the balance was cut for public sale.

STAMPS.

Expenditure on account of adhesive stamps has been incurred by the Crown Agents for the Colony, amounting to Rs. 7,000.

No. 4.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Under this heading large sums are required to cover the expenses of criminal trials before the Supreme Court.

No. 6.—CHARITABLE ALLOWANCES.

The cyclone at Jaffna having caused considerable damage to the Friend-in-Need Society's hospital, a sum of Rs. 500 has been allowed to effect the necessary repairs.

No. 7.—EDUCATION.

Rs. 5,187 is required for grants-in-aid to existing schools.

No. 8.—HOSPITALS AND SANITATION.

Out of a total under this head of Rs. 6,724, Estate District Hospitals require Rs. 3,300.

No. 9.—PRISONS.

For the maintenance of Ceylon convicts at Port Blair the sum of Rs. 1,809·84 is due to the Government of India.

No. 11.—TRANSPORT.

Rs. 5,000 has been incurred in paying the passages of public servants proceeding to and returning from England. Rs. 3,000 is required for the Government Agent and Assistant Government Agents of the Central Province; this, the Committee are informed, has been chiefly caused by the constant and prolonged tours of the Assistant Government Agent of Badulla in connection with the collection of outstanding amounts for paddy commutation, which have now all been satisfactorily settled.

No. 13.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

In consequence of the failure of the Oriental Bank Corporation new treasuries have been provided at Jaffna, Nuwara Eliya, and Badulla, at a cost of Rs. 3,190.

Rs. 6,690 have been spent on unavoidable repairs to Queen's House.

Rs. 1,900 were found necessary to adapt the new Lunatic Asylum for immediate occupation by the female lunatics.

No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.

On the road between Goyyápána and Kemegoda, an additional sum of Rs. 3,893 was required for the supervision of 40,000 days' labour contributed by the district for this road. In consequence of the opening of the railway to Hatton, the Government have taken over the Kotagal-oya road as a principal thoroughfare, instead of maintaining it on the grant-in-aid system, for which purpose a sum of Rs. 1,035 has to be provided.

The recent prolonged drought in the North-Western Province occasioned much distress, and it was found necessary to provide relief works, to meet which a sum of Rs. 1,000 appears.

Rs. 990 has been spent upon a survey of the Walawé river in the Southern Province.

For irrigation works in the North-Central Province Rs. 7,167·26 are required. This increase, it is stated, is rendered necessary by the alteration in the type estimates for "Repairs to Sluices and Village Tanks."

No. 15.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Rs. 7,151·23 has been incurred in defraying the expenses attendant on the Minor Courts Commission.

Rs. 2,800 is required to make up the amount payable by Government as the contribution to the Kandy water-supply.

Large sums are also required under this head for the purchase of lands in the Central, Eastern, and Western Provinces, on account of default of payments under the Grain Ordinances.

Rs. 1,000 is applied for for removing fallen trees and rendering small assistance to the poor in the vicinity of Jaffna immediately after the recent cyclone.

The other items in this Bill do not call for special notice.

The Committee append a schedule of all additional items connected with this Bill.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
G. W. PATERSON.
F. C. H. CLARKE.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
A. L. DE ALWIS.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislaive Council Chamber,
6th December, 1884.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS for Supplementary Supply Bill, 1884.

	To be inserted.	To be increased.	To be reduced.	To be omitted.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.		
No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.				
I—CIVIL.				
Secretariat—Printing Branch.				
Contingencies	490 22			
Office of Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.				
Provisional Salaries	847 25			
Government Agent, Batticaloa.				
Office Contingencies	99 50			
II.—JUDICIAL.				
Fiscal, Northern Province.				
Office Contingencies	90 0			
No. 2.—PENSIONS.				
Treasurer	8,000 0			
No. 3.—REVENUE SERVICES.				
Salt ... }	... 13,150 0			
Grain ... }	... 9,000 0			
Pearl Fishery ... } Government Agents	... 4,300 0			
Timber ... }	... 395 0			
Assessment .. }	... 80 0			
Stamps ... Crown Agents	... 7,000 0			
Stationery ... Government Agents	... 16 51			
No. 4.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.				
Government Agent, Colombo.				
Salaries of Gansabhawa Presidents	140 0			
No. 6.—CHARITABLE ALLOWANCE.				
Government Agent, Jaffna	500 0			
No. 8.—HOSPITALS.				
Government Agent, Batticaloa	50 0			
No. 9 B.—PRISONS SERVICES.				
Inspector-General of Prisons	1,809 84			
No. 11.—TRANSPORT.				
Treasurer	—	405 0		
Government Agent, Colombo *... ...	500 0			
,, ,, Batticaloa	68 0			
No. 13.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.				
Western Province.				
Repairs to New Lunatic Asylum	1,900 0			
No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, &c.				
Relief Works, Kurunégala District ...	1,000 0			
Survey of Irrigation Scheme, Wallawe river ...	990 0			
No. 15.—MISCELLANEOUS.				
Government Agent, Colombo	616 99			
,, ,, Kurunégala	454 94			
,, ,, Batticaloa	3,270 0			
,, ,, Jaffna	1,000 0			
,, ,, Kandy	3,951 16			
Crown Agents, Stationery	1,500 0			
No. 16.—INTEREST.				
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund ...	675 0			
No 20.—REFUND OF DUTIES.				
Government Agent, Colombo	550 0			
No. 21.—LANDS TAKEN FOR GOVT. PURPOSES.				
Government Agent, Jaffna	2,000 0			
No. 22.—IMMIGRATION.				
Government Agent, Jaffna	166 66			

XIX.—1884.

BILL TO RE-ADJUST CUSTOMS DUTIES.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to re-adjust the Customs Duties leviable under Ordinance No. 17 of 1869 and No. 14 of 1871."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 3rd December, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance to re-adjust the Customs Duties leviable under Ordinances No. 17 of 1860 and No. 14 of 1871."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. G. W. PATERSON, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, }
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET, }

BILL TO RE-ADJUST CUSTOMS DUTIES.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider the Draft Ordinance "to re-adjust the Customs Duties leviable under Ordinances No. 17 of 1869 and No. 14 of 1871," have the honour to report as follows :—

The Committee are unanimous in recommending that Tea Lead be exempted from duty ; the importance of assisting the rising Tea Industry being fully recognized by them.

They approve of the Schedules as proposed in the Bill ; but would however recommend that the *ad valorem* duty on Stationery be adopted *excluding* "paper and envelopes."

The Committee report the Bill with certain minor alterations in the wording.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
F. FLEMING.
G. W. PATERSON.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 6th December, 1884.

XX.—1884.

CONSOLIDATED STAMPS BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 26th November, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony."

The Hon. JOHN F. DICKSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Treasurer.
The Hon. P. RAMA-NÁTHAN, }
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET, }

CONSOLIDATED STAMPS BILL.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider the Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to consolidate the Stamp Duties leviable in this Colony" have the honour to report as follows :—

The desirability of consolidating the various Stamp Ordinances (named in the Preamble and Schedule A., which have been revised by the Committee) admits of no question ; the Sub-Committee have therefore given their chief attention to the revision of the rates proposed in Schedule B.

The Government having stated that it was necessary to increase the revenue derivable from stamps by the sum of Rs. 150,000, and having also declared that as a matter of policy it was desirable to place some restriction in the way of stamp duty on appeals from the lower Courts to the Supreme Court, the committee considered it advisable to examine the Judges of the Colombo and Kandy District Courts before entering upon the discussion of Schedule B. item by item.

The questions put by the Sub-Committee and the replies furnished by the learned Judges are appended to this report.

The Committee would call attention to the recommendation of the District Judge of Kandy that "a revision of the stamp duties ought to form part of an improved Procedure Ordinance."

The Committee have not been able to form an approximate estimate of what addition to the revenue will accrue from the increased duties which, after several prolonged sittings, they have agreed to submit to the Council.

SCHEDULE B.

PART I.

Appraisements.—They recommend that the duty on any one appraisement shall not exceed Rs. 10.

Exemptions.—They see no sufficient reason for exempting appraisements or valuations made by or for the Savings Bank or Loan Board, but they recommend that the exemption in favour of appraisements or valuations of any property made for purposes of ascertaining the duty payable on probates or letters of administration be continued as at present. They also recommend that bonds and mortgages of indemnity given to Fiscals or their deputies, or officers in the execution of their duty, be exempted. They are of opinion that a stamp of one rupee should be levied on "claims to property seized or objection made under Ordinance No. 4 of 1867, chapter XI."

As regards the duty to be levied on conditions of sale of immoveable property, the Committee would recommend an exemption of "All sales by Public Officers, including Fiscals or their Deputies."

To prevent evasion of duties of 5 cents, the Committee deem it advisable to suggest the insertion of a punitive clause similar to sub-section 7 of section 24 of Ordinance No. 23 of 1871.

Certificate of shares.—The Committee think that each share should be subject to a duty of 5 cents: "the certificate or other document evidencing the right or title of the holder thereof or any other person" would then bear a stamp corresponding to the number of shares which it professed to deal with.

Declaration of any use or trust.—They recommend the insertion after "trust" of the words "of or concerning any property, when made by any writing not being a will or an instrument chargeable with *ad valorem* duty as a settlement."

Lease of any property.—At the end of line 2 after "the," insert "aggregate" ; and in the fourth line in place of "ten years" the Committee recommend "seven years," that being by them considered the usual term at which purchases are calculated, and they see no reason why a lease should be subject to heavier duty than that imposed upon a conveyance or transfer.

Letters of Venia ætatis.—The Committee are of opinion that the duty under this head may well be increased to Rs. 100, as it will fall chiefly on wealthy heirs.

Partition.—The Committee recommend that when the value of the land partitioned is below Rs. 1,000 the duty should be Rs. 2·50, and when the value of the land partitioned is Rs. 1,000 and upwards, and in all cases where no value is mentioned, that the duty leviable should be Rs. 10.

Policy of Insurance.—As regards policies of insurance against risks by sea or fire, the Committee recommend a duty of 25 cents on each policy, and in all other cases that the *ad valorem* duty of 50 cents on each Rs. 1,000 be maintained.

Stamp Vendors.—The Committee are of opinion that the duty on licenses to sell stamps should be reduced to Rs. 10, as they are advised that any higher duty would press too heavily on the vendors in outlying stations, and would probably prove prohibitive, which would cause much inconvenience to the public generally.

PART 2.—DUTIES ON LAW PROCEEDINGS IN THE SUPREME COURT.

After a prolonged debate upon the Schedule of charges, the Committee suggest that the duties leviable be as follows:—

	Rs.	cts.
In case of Rs. 500 and under	2	50
For every additional Rs. 500 or fraction thereof up to Rs. 2,500 ...	2	50
For every additional Rs. 2,500 or fraction thereof up to Rs. 10,000 ...	2	50
For every additional Rs. 5 000 or fraction thereof up to Rs. 500,000...	2	50

Testamentary proceedings.—Line 1 : omit "in the class corresponding with," and insert "according to."

DUTIES ON LAW PROCEEDINGS IN THE DISTRICT COURT.

The Committee suggest the adoption of the new schedule which is appended to this report marked B. This specially provides that one duty only on a summons shall be leviable, however many the number of summonses to defendants or intervenients may be, and includes a proviso that "every exhibit in excess of ten in number shall be liable only to a duty of ten cents." It is proposed to retain the system of Fiscals' schedule fees on process, according to the scale shown in the Draft Ordinance. In the clause commencing "And no summons" omit from "insufficient" in the 4th line to the end, and insert "the party could not be found, or had left the jurisdiction of the Court, or by reason that no property of the debtor, or none sufficient to satisfy the exigency of any writ of execution, could be found."

Matrimonial suits.—Omit the word "under" and insert "of the value of."

DUTIES IN LAW. PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT OF REQUESTS.

The Committee recommend that, as proposed in the Draft, the duties named in this schedule shall cover all fees leviable for service of process under clauses 14 and 16 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1867 both of issue and re-issue, as also the summons to defendants and intervenients irrespective of numbers.

In the clause commencing "And no summons," *omit* and *insert* the same words as under same clause in District Court.

DUTIES LEVIABLE IN LAW PROCEEDINGS IN THE POLICE COURTS.

The Committee recommend that the duty on complaints or charges, &c., be 25 cents, and on summonses 15 cents.

As exemption under the head "Court of Requests," the Committee would place, "all affidavits or affirmation for verifying service of process ; all warrants of attachment issued by the court at its own instance."

PART 3.

The Committee recommend that the probate duty should be one and a half per cent. on all sums over Rs. 500, "provided that the common estate of a husband and wife which shall be administered to after the death of one of them, shall be paid as for half the estate."

PART 4.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Omit first clause.

Transpose 2 last lines under heading "Birth and Deaths," placing them under "Stamp fees under Matrimonial Rights Ordinance 1876 ;" and under this heading omit "Motion as to wife's property."

Omit "stamp fee under Ordinance No. 2 of 1879" (Coffee Stealing) and line following.

Stamp duties on Land registration.—Under the present laws stamp duties are leviable *on the instrument itself*, whereas the Bill under consideration proposes to levy upon the *certificate of registration*. It is suggested that until the law is amended on this point, it is advisable to postpone the consideration of the Schedule of duties under this head.

The Committee report the Bill with a few minor alterations in the wording.

JOHN F. DICKSON.
F. FLEMING.
R. W. D. MOIR.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 17th December, 1884.

EVIDENCE TAKEN BY SUB-COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 2nd December, 1884.

A meeting of the Sub-Committee was held on Tuesday, the 2nd December, for the purpose of taking evidence in regard to the New Stamp Duties Bill.

All the members present.

A. C. Lawrie, Esq., District Judge of Kandy attended and was examined.

1. [*Mr. Dickson.*] You are District Judge of Kandy? Will you state how long you have held that office, and what other judicial offices you have filled?—I have been for 11 years the District Judge of Kandy; I acted twice on the Supreme Court Bench as Acting Puisne Justice, and twice as Commissioner of Assize.

2. Does your long experience of the higher courts in Ceylon lead you to think that many false or exaggerated cases are brought in the civil courts?—My experience is that few false cases are brought; I have had cases on promissory notes and bonds, &c., which I have decided were forgeries I have also had land cases where the revival of old claims were supported by altogether false evidence of possession; but, with the exception of a few cases of that kind, I will say that I have not tried a large number of false cases. I have had a considerable number of exaggerated cases, where some money was owing and the plaintiff tried to make up a larger sum. False cases are few, though exaggerated cases are many.

3. Under the present law the Stamp Duties in an uncontested case of Rs. 500, *including* libel, proxy, summons (2 defendants), rule nisi, copy decree, writ, affidavit for bill of costs, and bill of costs, come to Rs. 12. In your opinion, is that a sufficient charge?—It does not seem to me too much. I think that it is a moderate charge, but it is sufficient considering the present poverty of the people. My answer is that it is moderate, and in the present state of the country it is sufficient.

4. Similarly, in a case of Rs. 5,000, the stamp duties would come to Rs. 40. In your opinion, is that a sufficient charge?—It is a moderate charge, which I think might be slightly increased.

5. Similarly, in a case of Rs. 50,000, the Stamp Duties would come to Rs. 60. In your opinion, is that a sufficient charge?—It might, without injury to litigants, be increased.

6. The present practice gives a descending scale of charges as the value of the suit ascends. Is the Committee to understand from your answers that, as in the cases just put, there is no justification for this?—I can hardly say so. I think that where a plaintiff seeks to recover a large sum, that is no reason why he should be made to pay a much larger sum for getting the same work done than a poor man has to pay. The maintenance of the Court, the time occupied, the number of clerks needed for the work, &c., are the same.

7. In the same suits in India, under the Court Fees Act, the stamp duties would be for cases of Rs. 500, Rs. 5,000, and Rs. 50,000, respectively, Rs. 37·50, Rs 275, Rs. 1,175; as against Rs. 12, Rs. 40, and Rs. 60 in Ceylon. What do you say to these charges?—I think, from my experience in the Central Province, that plaintiffs could not meet them—that they have not the ready money, and where capitalists are concerned, I fear that any attempt to introduce such a scheme would discourage the investment of capital. The Indian rates certainly strike me as being higher than people in Ceylon are able to pay. With regard to the scale of Rs. 37·50, I do not speak of an impossibility to pay it, but it is more than a poor suitor is able to pay.

8. It is not sufficient to compare the charges in India and Ceylon only in uncontested suits, because in India nearly the whole of the costs are levied by one stamp on the institution of a case. What addition should be made to the stamp fees in an uncontested suit in Ceylon to show what higher costs would generally be levied in a contested suit?—Considerable. For the plaintiff there would be stamps on the replication, notice of trial, list of witnesses, on the subpœnas, and on the exhibits. Then the stamps on the defendant's answer, subpœnas, exhibits, &c. The Government gain more in a contested case than in an uncontested one, and in a case where much documentary evidence is put in, much more. The bill of costs in a contested case, including proctors' and advocates' fees, is more than double than in an uncontested case, but I am unable to say exactly what proportion the stamps bear to the costs.

9. What is your opinion as to the advantage or disadvantage of levying stamps in law proceedings chiefly by means of an initial stamp?—I think that it would prevent the institution of many just claims.

10. On the other hand, would it not prevent the institution of false cases, and also be an advantage in saving the defendant from costs for stamps until judgment was recovered against him?—I do not think it would prevent the institution of false cases. I have more sympathy with plaintiffs than with defendants; there are far more false defences than false claims. I think that it would be a step in the wrong direction.

11. How does the revenue from stamps in the District Court of Kandy compare with the cost of the Court and its establishments?—I have not sufficient materials before me to answer. The cost of our establishment is Rs. 25,440 a year. The institutions have fallen from about 4 873 in 1878 to a little under 2,000 in 1883; there was a falling off of nearly 3,000 cases between 1878 and the present time. Taking the number of cases at 2,000 now, I think that the stamps used during the year are more than sufficient to pay for our establishment.

12. Assuming that some increase in stamp duties is necessary to make the suitors contribute more than at present towards the cost of the courts, how would you recommend that the increase be levied?—By increasing the present stamp duties, if necessary. At the same time, my feeling is that this ought not to be done without a revision of our procedure. At present a great many unnecessary papers and notices and rules are required.

13. Would a small fixed charge on the libel tend to discourage false and exaggerated cases, and at the same time make small cases contribute more fairly than at present in proportion to the time of the court given to them?—I despair of preventing false cases by any increased stamp duty. I think a man who

wishes to raise a false case will not be deterred from doing so by being required to pay a little more. We must deal with false cases in some other way. To increase the stamps considerably would deter litigants who have good claims, but it would not deter litigants who have a felonious object. My feeling is that, considering the circumstances of the country, the small cases contribute enough or as much as the majority of litigants can afford.

14. Are appeals for the sake of delay numerous?—They are. Appeals for the sake of delay are not infrequent. I may say numerous.

15 Are the stamps in appeals low? If so, does the lowness of the charges encourage these appeals for the sake of delay?—The stamps in appeal are nearly of the same value as those of the same class in the District Court, as a rule. My impression is that the stamps are low, but I value the right of appeal so highly that I could not approve of any attempt to prevent parties from having judgments reviewed by the Supreme Court. The cause of the evil is, I think, the delay which at present necessarily occurs before a District Court appeal is heard. If the Supreme Court were able to dispose of appeals from my Court within two or three months, there could, I think, be few or no appeals for the sake of mere delay.

16. Are not appeals for the purposes of delay a grave scandal, and do they not unfairly rob a suitor of the fruits of the judgment?—I think appeals for the purposes of delay are a scandal, but I do not think that the imposition of any number of stamps will prevent them.

17. [*Mr. Fleming*].—Should a fresh stamp be required on every re-issue of process, and, if not, in what such cases, if any, should a stamp be required? As long as our present system of requiring personal service of processes is preserved, I certainly think that a fresh stamp should not be required, because nothing is so easy as to evade service, and it would be unjust to make an innocent plaintiff pay for the evasion of service which the present system makes so easy. If there be a change in the service of the process, by which the process could be served through the post, or by leaving it with one of the inmates of the house, or by affixing it to the door of the house, then it would be different. But so long as our present system continues, I think a fresh stamp should not be exacted on each re-issue. It must also be remembered that trials are often postponed owing to the Court being fully occupied all day in the trial of another case. Adjournments are necessary from the absence of parties or their witnesses, illness, &c. It would tell heavily on suitors were fresh stamps exigible on subpœnas in such cases But fresh stamps might be exacted in all cases where the service has not taken place at the request of the person issuing the process. When a plaintiff asks the Fiscal not to serve a process, and stays his hand for some reason, a new stamp should be levied There may be other cases, too, where it would be fair to exact it.

18 On what would you then throw the cost of service, which must necessarily be incurred?—I think that the present Fiscal stamp and the Fiscal's fees meet it

19 In your opinion, is the law too strict in requiring personal service of process; and, if so, how could it be modified?—I think it is a great deal too strict, and the modification I suggest is that in a large number of cases service by registered letter should suffice, and in the remaining cases service on some adult in the house, or by affixing a copy of the process on the door. I know of instances of well-known persons of the highest respectability, on whom it is impossible to serve a process, and in whose case a return of "not to be found" is returned.

20. [*Mr. Mackwood*].—What is the population of the District of Kandy? According to the last Census returns, 455,946. Over this large population the District Court has sole jurisdiction in all cases for a larger amount than Rs 100.

21. Why should there be even a slight increase in all stages of a suit where large sums are involved, as compared with those of small amounts, provided a larger initiatory stamp had been paid for in such cases?—I have deprecated an initiatory stamp. Rich people may be very fairly taxed at a higher rate than poor people, but not at a corresponding *pro rata* rate. A defendant in a large case is probably a poor man, for one who owes £50,000 is more in debt than one who owes £50, but he has been dealing with a large sum of money, and it is not unreasonable that those who deal in large sums should contribute a somewhat larger amount towards the cost of maintaining our Courts than poorer men.

22. Have you not had many cases before you in which large sums owned by English capitalists have been the subject of dispute?—Yes.

23. Of the English capital brought into this country, has your court jurisdiction over a large proportion of the cases that may arise in respect thereto?—It has certainly.

24. In fact, in such cases your court would come next to the District Court of Colombo?—Oh, yes, certainly.

25. Do you not think that, in the present unsatisfactory state of the mortgage laws and Fiscals' Departments in this country, any material increase in the stamp duties would be almost prohibitive to the influx of fresh capital for investment in mortgages on land?—I am much opposed to interfering with the duties until a simpler procedure is introduced, and also a more certain law of mortgage; but I dwell most upon the necessity of a simpler procedure, instead of the present numerous and antiquated steps. To what an extent the influx of capital would be affected, is a matter for those who have capital.

26. State the number of civil cases instituted in your court for each of the years since 1st January, 1874, till 31st October, 1884.—In 1874, 3,011; in 1875, 3,018; in 1876, 3,824; in 1877, 4,894; in 1878, 4,873; in 1879, 4,135; in 1880, 2,921; in 1881, 2,377; in 1882, 2,196; in 1883, 1,979; and during ten months of the present year, 1,429.

27. State the number of insolvency cases instituted in your court during the same period?—556.

28. State the number of testamentary and guardian cases during the same period?—The testamentary cases since 1st January, 1874, have been 348. In 1881 there were 15 cases; in 1883, 29; and in 1884, 23.

29. State the number of criminal cases instituted during the same period?—805.

30. Can you offer any explanation for the great difference in the number of institutions, specially for the rise from 1874 to 1878 and the fall from 1879 to the present time?—There was at that time much prosperity larger transactions, and great wealth in the district; since that time there has been a constantly decreasing supply of ready money and the departure from the district of persons who had money to spend. Many of the Chetty firms have left Kandy, some of them without leaving any representative, while others have reduced their business to next to nothing. There are fewer persons who are doing business now.

31. Taking the last three years ending 31st October, 1884, state how many cases have been instituted, classifying them according to the schedule of the Stamp Ordinance No. 23 of 1871, and shewing the nationality of the plaintiffs: *i. e.*, how many cases have been instituted by Kandyans, how many by Chetties &c.?—The total number of cases instituted during the three years ending 31st October, 1884, was 6,015

Of these, 3,530 were for sums under Rs. 300. Of the plaintiffs in these cases, the Chetties numbered 1,428, the Moors 1,107, the Tamils 876, the Kandyans 847, the low-country Sinhalese 795, the Europeans 633, Affghans, Malays and Parsees (of whom the Affghans were the majority) 240, and Burghers 94.

52. What is the average cost of recovering money due on shop accounts, promissory notes, and mortgages, shewing the amount expended on stamps for recovery of Rs. 150, Rs. 200, Rs. 250, Rs. 300, Rs. 400, Rs. 500, Rs. 600, and so on :—1st, in undefended cases ; 2nd, in contested cases ; shewing what increase in expenditure for stamps would be incurred if the proposed Ordinance is passed ?

To recover Rs. 150, *Rs.* 200, *Rs.* 250.

	Undefended. Rs. cts.	Contested. Rs. cts.
Average cost including stamp fees and proctor's fees ...	35 16 ...	49 62
Amount expended on stamps	11 29 ...	12 20
Cost of stamps by proposed Ordinance	40 0 ...	44 40
Increase of cost of stamps	28 71 ...	32 20
Proportion which stamps bear to proctor's fees ;		
Present	1129 : 2387 ...	1220 : 3742
Future	4000 : 2387 ...	1440 : 3742

To recover Rs. 300, *Rs.* 400, *Rs.* 500.

Average cost including stamp fees and proctor's fees ...	46 14 ...	74 8
Amount expended on stamps	14 40 ...	20 58
Cost of stamps by proposed Ordinance	40 0 ...	48 50
Increase of cost of stamps	25 60 ...	27 92
Proportion which stamps bear to proctor's fees :		
Present	1440 : 3174 ...	2058 : 5350
Future	4000 : 3174 ...	4850 : 5350

To recover Rs. 600.

Average cost including stamp fees and proctor's fees ...	46 14 ...	74 8
Amount expended on stamps	14 40 ...	20 58
Cost of stamps by proposed Ordinance	52 50 ...	76 80
Increase of cost of stamps	38 10 ...	56 22
Proportion which stamps bear to proctor's fees :		
Present	1440 : 3174 ...	2058 : 5350
Future	5250 : 3174 ...	7680 : 5350

53. What are the costs for recovering possession of land, and shew the probable increase if the proposed Ordinance is passed ?—The costs in land cases are rather higher than in money cases of the same class.

54. State the amount of stamps used for the last three years in Testamentary Cases, shewing the amount used in administering estates of less than Rs. 500, and shew what the amount of stamps for the same number of cases would be under the new Ordinance ?—This information the witness promised to furnish hereafter.

55. State your opinion whether it is desirable to increase the value of stamps in Insolvency cases ?—I think they might fairly be increased.

56. Do you think it expedient to increase stamps used in criminal proceedings ?—That is not a matter with which I have much to do. I understand that all stamps were abolished by the Legislature last year, except those on an appeal. My feeling is, that it being the duty of the State to discover and punish crime, anything that stands in the way of that being done ought to be most anxiously avoided.

57. Give your opinion on the proposed increase of the value of stamps on libel, &c. ?—My opinion is that the present stamps are as much as the poorer class of people can bear. I think that the falling off in the number of institutions shows that they are deterred even at present by the expense. Their poverty, and not their will, prevents the number of cases being as large as in past years.

58. Give your opinion on the proposed increase of value of stamps on exhibits, &c.—In my opinion the proposed stamps on exhibits could not be imposed without a great denial of justice both to poor and rich. I have at present a case pending in my court in which above Rs. 94,000 is claimed by a Chetty for rice supplied to a considerable number of estates on the orders of the representative of a wealthy firm in England. The defendants in their answer put the Chetty to the proof of each item. The number of orders held by the plaintiff is, I am told, upwards of 200. If the proposed schedule were to become law, each of these orders would require to bear a stamp of Rs. 475. This example is, I think, sufficient.

59. What is the annual cost of maintaining the District Court of Kandy ?—Rs. 25,440.

60. Are you able to estimate the annual value of stamps used in proceedings of that court ?—No, I imagine that it is on an average of Rs. 20 for every case instituted.

61. Are you of opinion that a larger sum would be obtained by Government annually for stamps used in your court, were the proposed Ordinance to pass in its present state ?—I am not. My belief is that the number of institutions would fall off so very greatly, that Government would not gain.

62. [*Mr. Ráma-Náthan*] Is this an opportune time for increasing our stamp duties ? If not, why not ? I think not. Firstly, owing to the poverty of the people ; and secondly, because a revision of of the stamp duties ought to form part of an improved Procedure Ordinance.

63. Are false cases the rule or the exception in you court ?—Oh, quite the exception.

64. Would the raising of the stamp duties operate as a check upon frivolous appeals ? Or does it consist principally of speedier determination of cases in appeal ? I have already said that it does not seem to me a proper remedy to apply. It would act as a deterrent to those who have good grounds of appeal, quite as much as to those who have bad ones.

65. Could you not exempt re-issue of process from stamp duty in the following cases :

1. Where non-execution of process is due to the party not being found ;
2. Where he has left the jurisdiction ;
3. Where sufficient property to satisfy the writ has not been found ;
4. Where the judge may in his discretion authorize the re issue without stamps ?

I would, but I would rather that it should not be left to the discretion of the judge. I greatly desire to see substitution for personal service, thereby obviating the number of returns of *non est inventus* which we at present have.

46. Would you increase the duty now payable on Probate?—In cases of big successions, it does not seem to me that it would be a hardship to increase it. I am glad to see a proposed reduction on small estates, which will be a considerable boon to the poor. Succession duty is rather a favourite tax in England, and though it may be hard on widows and orphans, yet the revenue has to be kept up. I don't think an increase will operate harshly.

47. In addition to the proposed increase on Probate, would you sanction a fresh duty on appraisements for distribution of an estate under the charge of an executor or administrator?—It seems to me that this is dealt with in two parts of the proposed, and existing, Ordinance. It is first of all dealt with under the head "Appraisement," and again under the head "District Courts," where it is said that every Testamentary case shall bear a stamp corresponding with the value of the estate. I am not aware of hardship in exacting the duty, nor do I picture to myself that that part of the proposed Ordinance would work harshly.

48. Do you see any objection to raising the duty leviable on Promissory Notes and Inland Bills of Exchange?—I have not formed an opinion on that part [promissory notes, &c.], and I prefer to confine myself to the practical working of the part relating to Judicial proceedings.

49. Have you studied the subject of registration duties?—I have not studied it, but I desire to see registration resorted to and encouraged.

50. Do you think an increase of registration duties, concurrently with an increase of stamp duties, would conduce to registration?—Registration being voluntary, any increase will deter parties from registering.

51. [*Mr. Dickson.*] Is not the priority of an encumbrance as secured by registration a provision which practically makes registration compulsory, so far as encumbrances of landed property are concerned?—There is a large number of people in the Kandyan District, who trust implicitly in the good faith and solvency of their mortgagors and who grudge the expense of registration fees.

52. [*Mr.Ráma-Náthan.*] Is not the local law of registration as affecting mortgages, leases, &c., of lands in an unsatisfactory state?—I should like to see registration universally adopted, and every facility given to induce people to register their deeds.

53. [*Mr. Bosanquet.*] Do you consider a *pro rata* ascending scale the correct course to adopt; or do you consider a maximum rate for large cases, with a descending scale for smaller cases, preferable; or would you keep to the present scale of taxation, according to the classes in Ordinance 23 of 1871?—The present system seems to me good. I don't know that I see any reason why the maximum rate should not be higher than it is now, if the people had larger means; but I don't think the rate ought to increase to the prohibitive amounts proposed in the new Ordinance. I think a moderate maximum rate for large cases, with a descending scale for small ones, preferable. I am not prepared to say that the present maximum might not be raised.

54. Would not any material increase in the cost of obtaining judgment deter suitors from realizing the value of their securities, and practically deny them justice?—Looking to the poverty of the people and to the number of cases under Rs. 300, and looking also to the decrease in the number of institutions, it seems to me that the people are now prevented by poverty from coming to court, and that any material increase in the cost of litigation will only aggravate what I am convinced is a serious existing evil.

55. Is it, in your opinion, advisable to, in any way, increase the difficulties or cost in obtaining judgment in uncontested cases?—There is nothing I desire more than to see litigation made simpler and cheaper. The more stages you have, the more time and money are spent. I am in favour of any system which would increase simplicity and rapidity and cheapness in litigation.

56. Have any cases come under your own jurisdiction in which the cost of stamps, if levied on the sales prepared in this Ordinance, would exceed the value of the property when the security has been discussed? Oh, yes! There are very many at present in all classes of cases, and the Fiscal's returns in many cases show that the amount realized is insufficient to meet a quarter of the cost of litigation.

Thursday, 4th December, 1884.

All the Members present.

T. BERWICK, Esq., District Judge of Colombo, examined.

57. [*Mr. Dickson.*] What offices, legal or judicial, have you held besides your present office of District Judge of Colombo?—I have been a Judical Officer, either as Crown Counsel or Judge, since 1851. I was for some years Judge of the Kandy District Court, and I have been Judge of the Colombo District Court since 1868. I have been one of the principal Law Officers of the Crown and have acted twice, I think, as Puisne Justice, and been four times Commissioner of Assize.

58. What is the population under the jurisdiction of the District Court of Colombo?—The population under my jurisdiction is about 400,000 souls; and the area is 540 square miles.

59. [*Mr. Fleming.*] Can the stamp fees now required in legal proceedings be, in your opinion, in any way properly increased; and, if so, with regard to what matters?—This question must be considered in connection with the other costs of litigation. In that view, I think they cannot bear an increase; unless, perhaps, in appeal costs, which as a matter of policy, rather than of revenue, I think ought to be made stringent. The regular *forum* for decision of litigated disputes is the court of first instance. An appeal is, in principle, a matter of privilege, and it is one which in this country is grossly abused; and it is of no value whatever as a test of the accuracy of legal decisions, when, as in a large number of cases, it is but an appeal from one single judge to another single judge

60. What are the costs connected with legal proceedings other than those incurred by stamp fees, to which you alluded in your last answer?—I principally refer to lawyers' costs and expenses of witnesses.

61. What proportion, as a rule, do you think lawyers' costs and expenses of witnesses bear to the Stamp Fees required in a case?—I have never averaged the figures, and am, therefore, not able to answer the question in the only way in which it ought to be answered, namely, with reference to an average; but I

can give information which will throw much light on the subject of the utter inability of litigation to bear any further taxation. In my Administration Report for 1871 I wrote as follows :—

"*Cost of Litigation.*—Sixteen "Money Cases" for claims below £30 were taken at random.

"The aggregate value claimed or decreed was found to be				£298 3 6
The costs taxed against the losing party (taxed as between party and party)	£154	2	0	
Losing party's costs, if taxed as between party and client, would probably exceed this,—but say	54	2	0	
				398 4 0

"That is to say, the costs were over the value of the subjects in dispute.

"When the larger class of claims is examined, it is found that the costs diminish enormously in proportion, or to express it differently, the rich are taxed greatly less in this matter than the poor: but cases of any considerable amount form the smallest part of litigation.

"With respect to "Land Cases"—in the last case I have accidentally happened to see, the claim was for land valued at £20—prayer for ejectment and £4 damages—judgment for plaintiff for the land without damages. Plaintiff's bill of costs in the *District* Court (excluding Appeal costs) taxed at £10 12*s*. The losing party's costs are probably as much. *Total (say)* £20, *or cent. per cent. on the value.* Had the subject been an encroachment of land worth only £10, the costs would have been the same, or 200 *per cent. on the subject in dispute.*

"Annexed is a table of [Land] cases which the Secretary has taken at random :—

Land Cases.	Entered value of Land claimed.	Past Damages claimed.	Decreed.			Adversary's Costs taxed against losing party.
			Land.	Past Damages.	Total.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
54973 ...	25 0 0	4 10 0	25 0 0	2 0 0	27 0 0	*a* 24 11 3
55564 ...	30 0 0	3 0 0	30 0 0	—	30 0 0	12 8 3
55648 ...	15 0 0	8 0 0	Nonsuited		—	6 2 3
55706 ...	15 0 0	1 10 0	15 0 0	—	15 0 0	16 14 6
53392 ...	15 0 0	8 0 0	15 0 0	—	15 0 0	21 7 0
52915 ...	50 0 0	6 0 0	50 0 0	—	50 0 0	20 1 11
56158 ...	15 0 0	3 9 6	15 0 0	3 9 6	18 9 6	17 2 3
56224 ...	86 0 0	25 0 0	86 0 0	3 0 0	89 9 6	26 0 3
56862 ...	40 0 0	10 0 0	40 0 0	-	40 0 0	13 0 3
56309 ...	22 10 0	5 0 0	22 10 0	—	22 10 0	12 14 0
56338	37 10 0	18 0 0	37 10 0	—	37 10 0	18 7 3
56787 ..	12 16 0	—	Nonsuited		—	9 6 0
55440 .	11 10 0	1 10 0	Nonsuited		—	7 15 9

a This includes Arbitrator's fee.

"The case I have specified is thus shewn to have been an ordinary one. Excluding from the table nonsuits, we have the value in litigation £344 19*s*.; and the costs when doubled to represent the losing party's own, as well as those he pays to his adversary, (excluding nonsuits) £364 13*s*. 10*d*

"As it is not for a moment to be supposed that all litigation, even when unsuccessful, is either fraudulent or reckless, and fitly repressed or punished by such enormous taxes on justice, it seems to me that this subject merits consideration in the interests of the people. The costs of the higher valued claims should be *increased*, and those of the lower class decreased. The Village Tribunals for the local and inexpensive disposal of petty causes will doubtless be fostered ....."

Again, in my Administration Report for 1873, I find that I wrote as follows :—

"*Cost of Litigation.*—There is no matter of legal reform which so urgently needs settlement as this. The costs of litigation in the District Court press so seriously on the industry and crime of the country, and are themselves so unjust, as to induce me to renew a statement of the facts. The costs of a cause in certain, perhaps the large majority, of contested cases are more than cent. per cent. on the value of the subjects in dispute; and where the subject is small—say in a case of encroachment on land worth £10, they are 200 per cent of the value. A mere statement of the fact is sufficient to show the urgent need for remedy. I have just given judgment to-day for the following claim, which illustrates the subject forcibly in an ordinary enough example of costs. Defendant sold plaintiff a land for 100 rupees, and was ejected in a suit by a third party having better title. Plaintiff now sued his vendor to recover the purchase money and the costs he was put to in defending the former suit. The following is the schedule filed with the libel :—

Purchase money	Rs.	100 0
Costs paid by plaintiff to the defendant in case 57,059 (the former suit) .	„	141 0
Plaintiff's own costs in that suit	„	80 75
		321 75
The Secretary informs me that the costs (plaintiff's and defendant's) in the present case will be about	„	171 0
	Total Rs.	492 75

"Surely this is a frightful condition of matters, and must lead to great evils among a population consisting mostly of a poor landed peasantry. I know that it does lead to much poverty, malice, and crime.

"Often in signing orders for execution for costs, I have felt remorse for a legal scandal which the law gives me no power to prevent, and compels me to assist in, and have foreseen the resulting *cadmus*-brood of sorrows and litigation to follow. The considerations which it seems necessary to keep in view are, first, to diminish the necessary costs of litigation to a reasonable amount, so that justice may not be inordinately expensive ; but, second, not to make them so low as to act as an encouragement to mere litigiousness and bad temper ; and, third, to preserve a sufficiently remunerative field to attract and retain a good standard

of legal practitioners. In looking for the appropriate remedy we must first discover the *habitat* of the evil. When the class of larger claims is examined, it is found that the costs diminish in these enormously in proportion. It is to the class of cases involving subject matter under the value of £30 that the animadversion of enormous costs applies. We then find that the very class of cases and suitors which can least bear it are heaviest taxed in the administration of justice. The first principle of remedy is therefore obvious, namely, to increase the costs in the larger cases, and diminish them in the lower ones. The next principle is nearly as obvious, namely to send these smaller cases to a cheaper court, or in other words, to increase the jurisdiction of the Minor Courts . ... If these two measures should be adopted, I believe they would be the prevention of much injustice, ruin, bitterness, and crime."

In the following year I wrote :—"I have pointed out in my three previous reports the law reforms that are most urgent, and some of them, such as the ruinous *cost of litigation*, very clamantly urgent indeed, in the best interests of the country ; infinitely more so than might be supposed by those who have not observed how it has affected the prosperity and well-being of the Sinhalese,—I should rather say, how it has ruined them, and been answerable for a large proportion of crime. This matter was prominently noticed in my printed letter on Village Tribunals, which I believe was at length the immediate *motor* to their institution, and again specially in my Administration Reports for 1871 and 1873 ; and I can add nothing on this subject beyond directing attention to it."

62. Is there anything to show, in the cases to which you have been referring, what were the stamp fees, as distinguished from other charges connected with them ?—No, but I can answer the precise question with reference to the proposed new schedule, because I have worked the very question out. In a simple suit on a promissory note for Rs 120, provided there be no appeal, the Proctor's and Advocate's costs will be Rs. 80, and the stamps under the new schedule will be Rs. 92·50, making a total of Rs. 172·50 ; but if the plaintiff loses his case, as an honest suitor well may, either through the astuteness of his defendants or through one of his defendants having a defence which turns out good in law, or in consequence of his litigating a legitimate and fair controversy, this honest suitor will have to pay costs on both sides, which on this Rs. 120 promissory note will be Rs 345. But the expenses of witnesses and frequently incidental proceedings are here omitted ; so that it will be moderate to say that the ordinary costs (independent of the appeal costs) of a simple money suit of the subject value of Rs. 120 will be nearer Rs. 400 than Rs. 345, assuming that no process has to be issued more than once, which is almost never the fact ; and assuming also that there are no claims put forward in execution and contested, and this is always pretty safe to be the case.

[Witness presented the following memorandum of stamps and law costs in such a suit for Rs. 120, exclusive of expenses of witnesses and of any incidental proceedings, and of appeal costs, and of claims in execution, and assuming no process to be returned unexecuted :]

1	Proxy		
1	Libel		
2	Summonses to two defendants		
2	Rules Nisi to ditto for default of appearance		
2	Ditto for default of answer		
1	Replication		
1	List of witnesses		
2	Notices of Trial to defendants		
4	Subpœnas		
2	Exhibits		
1	Bill of Costs		
1	Affidavit of service of ditto		
1	Copy judgment		
21	Stamps, at Rs. 2·50	Rs. 52	50
2	Writs against property	„ 20	0
2	Writs against person	„ 20	0
	Stamps *on one side only*...	Rs. 92	50
	Plaintiff's Proctor's and Advocate's costs (say) ...	„ 80	0
		172	50
	Costs of the other side (say)	„ 172	50
	Total costs and stamps to be paid by losing party ..	„ 345	0

63. What is your opinion as regards levying stamps in law proceedings chiefly by means of an initial stamp ?—I have not much considered the question, but, as at present advised, my opinion is unfavourable. Firstly, it would press as much on a non-contested as on a contested case, because at that stage you can never say whether a case is to be contested or not. Secondly, it favours the defendant at the expense of the plaintiff. It makes the plaintiff pay for both sides, as it often happens that nothing can be recovered from the defendant. Thirdly, what is by no means an unimportant consideration, it increases the first outlay, instead of distributing it over the several years, during which a litigation frequently lasts.

64. Do you think there are many false cases instituted before the civil courts ?—A much larger proportion, I have reason to believe, than exists elsewhere—that is in other countries ; but there is an enormous proportion which although not absolutely and deliberately false, are either unjust, or are instituted without any reasonable ground or right, or any reasonable chance of success. There are many such land cases—the outcome of the hankering for undivided shares of old family lands which had been long since sold in execution, or had long been in possession of co-heirs, or which are claimed in virtue of forgotten rights depending on the division of the matrimonial community of grandparents. But, be the cases just or unjust, the evidence to support them is very constantly either false or valueless. At the same time, I think that the charge of false litigation and false evidence is frequently made far too indiscriminately.

65. Do you think an initial stamp fee would prevent any of the cases, which you say are instituted without any reasonable ground of success, from being instituted ?—Undoubtedly ; especially in village cases amongst the Sinhalese, and somewhat less frequently in money claims amongst the Tamils. But while pre-

venting the institution of unjust cases, it would equally impede the institution of just cases, and I need not say that the just cases bear a very large proportion to unjust ones.

66. Do you think that the stamp fees now payable on probate might, without detriment, be increased? This question also must be considered in connection with the legal costs of obtaining and carrying out administrations. It is not exaggerated language to say that at present these are ruinous, and therefore these stamp duties will bear no increase.

67. What is the nature of the other charges to which you have alluded, say in an uncontested probate matter?—Perhaps the best way in which I can answer this question is to refer to my remarks on testamentary jurisdiction in the same Administration Reports which I have already cited, and which I will now read extracts from; but I may, in the first instance, mention that in a case now pending (No. 4,077) the value of a piece of land to be distributed among the heirs is Rs. 200, and the notarial fees and stamps alone come to Rs. 181. In 1871 I wrote:—

(*From Administration Reports for* 1871, p. 298.)

"*Futility of granting Administration to small estates.*—In connection with this point, I have simply taken up and examined six cases—(there being a great many others of a similar nature)—in which administration was granted to estates under £50.

"The amount to the aggregate credit of these six cases was £191; the legal expenses amounted to £37, and after payment of other debts of the estates, the aggregate balance to the credit of the six cases amounted to £35, which was to be distributed amongst eight heirs, giving an average of £4 odd to each heir.

"I may also mention that in *two* other cases—one in which the assets of the estate amounted to £253,—the *costs* incurred in the suit was £60 13*s* 9*d*., and after payment of other debts, a sum of £80 only remained for distribution amongst six heirs; and in the *other* case, the assets, when the final account was rendered amounted to £56 (originally appraised at £103), the legal expenses were £31 19*s*. 4*d*., and after payment of other debts, a sum of £8 remained to the credit of the estate.

"The court, familiar with the object of, and the evils engendered by, such cases has of late been very guarded in granting applications for administration to trifling estates."

(*From Administration Report for* 1872, p. 535.)

"*Amount distributed to Heirs.*—Of the number of final accounts passed during the year, viz., 24—

	Rs.
The total appraised value in them is	111,130
After deduction of debts, costs, duty and legal expenses, the amount remaining for distribution in cash and land amongst 86 heirs was	78,960
The average amount distributed, to each heir in cash or land ...	918
Of the amount distributed there is represented by land ...	53,770
Money and moveable property	25,190

"The amount of costs, legal expenses, &c., amounted to not far short of a third of the whole. The inference is, that the present method of testamentary administration is unduly expensive and burdensome to heirs, and calls for enquiry and reform."

(*From Administration Report for* 1873.)

Amount distributed to Heirs, &c.

Final accounts passed ...		26
Aggregate appraised value of estates ..	...	Rs. 468,073
After deduction of debts, costs, duty, and legal expenses remaining for distribution among 105 heirs in cash or land ...	...	121,892
Whereof in land		56,249
Whereof in money and moveables	...	65,643
Average distribution to each heir.		
In cash and moveables	...	535 odd
In cash and land	..	625
Cost of legal expenses, debts, &c.	...	93,610

(*From Administration Report for* 1874.)

"9. One of the means of exactly measuring the progress in the wealth of the native population might be a comparison of the succession duties paid from time to time: but .... and there is a disturbing element in the Stamp Ordinance requiring a deceased person's *debts* (when not notarial obligations) to be reckoned in the 'value of the estate' for the purpose of charging duty. This anomaly is more particularly adverted to in paragraph 20 hereof."

"20. I would advert to another matter which is one of considerable hardship to poor heirs. It will be remembered that in my Administration Report for 1871 I drew attention to the circumstance that the estates of deceased persons are virtually charged with double succession duties and transfer registration fees after the death of the ancestors, before they reach the children and heirs, and that this presses with peculiar hardship on widows and children, who are already impoverished by the death of their bread-winners. In the course of preparing the present report, in which I have given special attention to the so-called testamentary jurisdiction, my attention has been arrested by the discovery of another peculiar hardship on such persons under the Stamp Ordinance. Under it the succession duties are paid on grants of probate and administration on the value of the estate after deduction only of debts due by the deceased on "mortgage or other *notarial* bonds." The consequence is, that duty is paid not merely on the nett assets, but actually on *debts* as well, when these happen not to be on notarial obligations. I will illustrate this by the following examples:—One man dies leaving an estate containing property valued in all at £5,000. His notarial debts are £2,000, and his other debts inconsiderable or *nil*. His children or heirs pay duty only on £3,000, which at one per cent is £30. Another man dies leaving an estate also valued, in all, at £5,000. He has no notarial bond debts, but, having been a trader, has the same amount of liabilities, £2,000, due (say) on promissory notes, contracts, ordinary bonds, and other simple contract debts. His children pay one per cent., or £50 on the whole gross estate of £5,000, and therefore over one and-a-half per cent. on precisely the same amount received as in the former case. The more indebted he dies the higher duty his children pay. Thus, suppose

his trade and simple contract debts were £4,500, the free estate coming to his heirs would be only £500; yet they pay duty on £5,000, or ten per cent. on the sum they receive; while the children who are left so much better off in the first case, pay only one per cent. on what they receive."

With the permission of the Committee, the witness handed in the following notes he had made on testamentary proceedings :—

TESTAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

There are two points to which I have before drawn the attention of Government, and I take this opportunity of doing so again. They are faults of the old Ordinance reproduced in the proposed new one. The one point is a matter of great hardship, and the other is iniquitous.

I. The heirs to an inheritance—which in this country consists mostly of a small village holdings—in addition to paying Probate or Administration duty on the value of the deceased's estate when the Court vests the title in the Executors or Administrators, have also to pay stamp duty on the conveyances made to them by the executor or administrator when he distributes it.

Suppose there be no contest for administration, and the value of the estate to be Rs. 3,000, the stamps and costs under the proposed new schedule will be as follows :—

STAMPS	Rs.	cts.
Probate or administration duty @ 2 per cent.	60	0
Registration of ditto	5	0
Appraisement (this present exemption is removed by proposed Bill)	7	50
3 or 4 provisional and final accounts @ Rs. 2·50	10	0
Conveyances by executor or administrator to (say) six children of deceased	60	0
Registration of ditto under clause *b*, @ Rs. 20	120	0
Rs. ...	262	50 = nearly 9 per cent.

OTHER COSTS.		
Administrator's commission ..	... Rs.	120
Legal expenses ...	...	250
Notary's Fees	...	180
Rs.	812	= 27 per cent

a severe tax, it will be admitted, on the widow and children, at the time, and for the misfortune, of being deprived of their bread-winner.

II. The Ordinance actually charges probate duty, not only on the free estate, but also *on all the debts due by the deceased*, unless these are on Notarial bonds. A trader's whole property may, and often does, consist of his stock in trade and more or less irrecoverable book debts due to him Say that the total—making no allowance for his liabilities—is worth Rs 5,000, and that he owes money on promissory notes, judgments, and other non-notarial liabilities to the amount of Rs. 4,000. His widow and children are actually mulcted probate or administration duty not merely on the surplus estate of Rs. 1,000, but on the *very debts the deceased has left, and which they have to discharge.*

III.—The new Bill proposes to repeal the proviso that when the common estate of husband and wife is administered on the death of one of them, duty shall only be paid on the deceased's moiety—that which belongs to the deceased *heirs*, and not to the survivor. This will be most unjust. It will make probate payable on the estate of the *living* as well as on that of the dead: on what was always one's own, as well as on what persons gain by inheritance.

[I may here correct a flagrant misapprehension that a considerable change, or any change, *practically*, is made in commencing the scale for probate duty at Rs 500, and charging no duty on estates under that value. There is now hardly a case known (in Colombo at least) of probate being asked for or administration allowed of estates under Rs. 1,500 There are a few, but only a very few exceptions, in which it has been allowed for very special reasons, such as because money has to be drawn from the Savings Bank. The alteration of the commencement of the scale is, therefore, of no importance whatever.]

68. Is the present law, in your opinion, too stringent in requiring personal service of process ; and if so, how do you consider it might be modified ; and do you think that a fresh stamp, as distinguished from the Fiscal's fee, should be required on every re-issue of process ?—I think that there is no undue stringency whatever in the present law Every process ought to be personally served if possible, and especially in this country where so little dependence can be placed on any kind of service. There is no room for any grievance on the subject It constantly happens that when the Fiscal reports that a process cannot be personally served, the plaintiff's proctor applies to the court for leave to substitute some other mode of service, as by sticking the notice upon the door of the defendant's dwelling house, serving it on his wife or clerk, or even sending it through the post ; and the court, on sufficient grounds being shown, never makes any difficulty in allowing this. But it is reasonable that the court, in every instance of dispensing with personal evidence, should have satisfactory evidence that there has been sufficient enquiry for a defendant who is reported not to be found,—or that he is evading service,—or that for other reasons (as in the case of Moorish women) he or she cannot be got at.

With respect to the other branch of the question, which regards requiring a fresh stamp each time a process is re-issued—that is to say, each time a process or writ is returned unexecuted, or finds an insufficient levy—I think that the proposal is simply monstrous ; and the only case in which the schedule dispenses with a fresh stamp is one in which it would be reasonable to require it, namely when a suitor has, through his own or his proctor's fault, omitted to put the process in the hands of the Fiscal in sufficient time. I calculate that to require a fresh stamp on every re-issue of every unexecuted process would double or treble the stamp duties in a case, and the property ultimately sold to satisfy the plaintiff's judgment often does not realize enough to cover the mere costs of suit. The result will be a legislative denial of justice and a hindrance of commerce. It must be remembered that as often as not, or at all events very often, it is the fault of the Government—that is to say, in so far as a Government is responsible to the public for the shortcomings of its own employees—that process is returned unexecuted.

69. [*Mr Mackwood.*] What is the annual cost of maintaining the District Court of Colombo ?—The salaries, Fixed and Provisional, are Rs. 24,900 ; Contingencies, Rs. 150 ; Administration of Justice

(stationery), Rs. 200. Total Rs. 25,250. But there are other expenses, such as rent, a proportion of general expenses in respect to the cost of the Audit Office, the Secretariat, and the like, and Printing, of which I can give no estimate, but a fair proportion of which I should think inconsiderable.

70. Are you able to estimate the annual value of stamps used in proceedings of your court?—I am able to give you the exact total for certain years. The figures for some years have not been added up, but I can give the exact sums in the Administration Reports now beside me, and also that for last year. Including Civil, Insolvency, and Testamentary cases, the stamps used were:—

		Rs.		Rs.	Total.
In 1873	Amount credited to revenue ...	44,793	To Fiscal...	5,448 ...	50,241
1874	do. ...	47,304	do. ...	6,570 ...	53,874
1875	do. ...	38,314	do. ...	6,300 ...	44,614
1883	do. ...	43,945	do.	— ...	—

I have not got beside me the amount credited to the Fiscal for last year.

71. Are you of opinion that a larger sum would be obtained by Government annually for stamps used in your courts, were the proposed Ordinance to pass in its present state?—I do not think so—at least, I greatly doubt it.

72. State the number of Civil, Insolvency, and Testamentary cases entered in your court during the past ten years to date.—The witness here put in the following list, and stated: "Having regard to the chart of ordinary fluctuations over a long period, there is no notable decrease in Civil Institutions.

Institutions—Civil.				*Institutions—Insolvency.*		*Institutions—Testamentary.*	
1861 ...	2,743	1873 ...	2,001	1872 ...	36	1872 ...	56
1862 ..	2,346	1874 ...	2,552	1873 ...	34	1873 ...	69
1863 ...	1,964	1875 ...	2,326	1874 ...	27	1874 ...	55
1864	2,738	1876 ..	2,423	1875 ...	40	1875 ...	86
1865 ...	3,342	1877 ...	2,717	1876 ...	39	1876 ...	59
1866 ...	3,029	1878 ...	3,153	1877 ...	31	1877 ...	84
1867 ...	3,405	1879 ...	3,619	1878 ...	50	1878 ...	74
1868 ...	3,142	1880 ...	2,888	1879 ...	56	1879 ...	65
1869 ..	2,743	1881 ..	2,900	1880 ...	35	1880 ..	58
1870 ...	2,571	1882 ...	2,797	1881 ...	58	1881 ..	79
1871 ...	2,104	1883 ...	2,410	1882 ...	59	1882 ..	74
1872 ..	2,135			1883 ...	40	1883 ...	65

73. (No. 22 put to Mr. Lawrie.) Have you not had many cases before you in which large sums owned by English capitalists have been the subject of dispute?—Oh, yes! a great number of cases, and for enormous amounts.

74. (No. 23 put to Mr. Lawrie.) Of the English capital brought into this country, has your court jurisdiction over a large proportion of the cases that may arise in respect thereto?—Almost all the suits on mortgages of coffee estates are brought in my court.

75. As regards such cases, would not your court take first rank in jurisdiction?—In a great majority.

76. Do you not think that, in the present unsatisfactory state of the mortgage laws and Fiscal's Departments in this country, any material increase in the stamp duties would be seriously prohibitive to the influx of fresh capital for investment in mortgages on lands?—I have no decided opinion upon this question. It might; I am rather inclined to think it would not. There seems to be no venture or risk of capital whereby profit can be reasonably hoped for, or any investment promising high interest, but somebody's capital seems to seek it, when money is plentiful at home and a panic or special depression has subsided; but this is a question which I have not studied and I wish no value to be attached to my opinion.

77. State your opinion whether it is desirable to increase the value of stamps in insolvency cases.—[Here a conversation ensued, the witness eventually saying:] It will harm nobody but the creditors, and as they rarely or never get any dividend, and there are rarely any surplus assets for unsecured creditors, an increase in the stamp duties on this class of cases would make little difference to them.

78. [*Mr. Moir.*] Under the existing law, a Fiscal's schedule stamp accompanies each process when issued or re-issued; has it ever been made the subject of complaint to you, or have you found, that the requirement bears hardly on suitors?—I have never had any complaints made to me on the subject.

79. [*Mr. Rama-Nathan.*] (No. 50 put to Mr. Lawrie.) Do you think an increase of registration duties, concurrently with an increase of stamp duties, would conduce to registration?—I think that registration is now *practically* compulsory, and especially in cases of mortgage. It is grossly imprudent for any man not to register. In that view, I would not anticipate that an increase of registration duties would affect the frequency of registration of transactions, though it would have a tendency to lessen the number of transactions. It would probably press on the mortgagor, and not on the capitalist. If the conveyance of land is impeded by considerable taxation or any other impediments, there will naturally be less commerce in land; but I do not see why it should make a purchaser less prudent in making his title safe.

80. [*Mr. Bosanquet.*] The duties paid into your court by civil suitors enable you to dispense criminal justice free of cost to the Government, and furthermore to credit the general revenue with an appreciable sum?—This is really a question of addition and subtraction. I am not aware of the total expenditure on the courts, apart from the items I have already cited. So far as I can judge, there is a great profit from my court.

81. Do you consider that litigation can bear any increased taxation?—Most distinctly it cannot: in no branch of it. I may add, that at the proposed rates on the lower classes of suits, a *pro rata* increase in the higher classes becomes enormous and morally impossible.

82. Do you consider that an initial stamp would tend to make it more difficult for the natives to obtain access to the courts in cases under Rs. 300?—If the initial stamp is to amount to the aggregate duties of a contested suit, I think it will, probably, be the next thing to prohibitive.

ANNEXURE.

Analysis of Costs *in Cases referred to in Paragraph* 61 *of Evidence of Mr. Berwick*

(1).—Land Cases. *(Excluding Non-suits.)*

Number of Case.	Value Decreed.	Stamps.	Lawyers' Fees.	Witnesses' Batta.	Total.	Remarks.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	
54973	250 0	17 87	156 38	71 37	245 62	
55564	300 0	15 25	101 0	—	116 25	
55648	—	—	—	—	—	Non-suited
55706	150 0	25 62	110 51	31 12	167 25	
53302	150 0	32 50	181 0	—	213 50	
52915	500 0	30 37	170 59	—	200 96	
56158	150 0	27 0	107 0	37 12	171 12	
56224	860 0	48 75	211 37	—	260 12	
56862	400 0	15 0	111 0	4 12	130 12	
56309	225 0	23 87	103 13	—	127 0	
56338	375 0	26 62	159 50	—	186 12	
56787	—	—	—	—	—	Non-suited
55440	—	—	—	—	—	do.
Total ...	3,360 0	262 85	1,411 48	143 73	1,818 6	
Doubling which (at least) to include costs of losing party —Rs.					3,636 12	

(2).—Money Cases.

Number of Case.	Value Decreed	Stamps.	Lawyers' Fees.	Witnesses' Batta.	Total.	Remarks.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs cts.	
55229	200 0	15 37	55 50	3 75	74 62	
55299	267 83	10 75	77 50	—	88 25	
55262	118 25	10 0	41 25	—	51 25	
55318	165 0	20 37	30 63	—	51 0	
55312	300 0	17 50	30 12	—	47 62	
55493	110 0	14 12	126 63	-	140 75	
55463	185 0	18 75	65 62	—	84 37	
55361	200 0	36 0	96 25	—	132 25	
54923	117 50	9 25	39 25	—	48 50	
55647	160 0	16 62	84 38	21 25	122 25	
55155	30 0	21 50	72 0	—	93 50	
55584	149 80	18 75	58 25	—	77 0	
55150	70 96	13 12	100 50	—	113 62	
55435	156 25	14 62	74 88	—	89 50	
55447	297 58	24 62	117 38	—	142 0	
53834	232 50	15 0	141 0	—	156 0	
	2,760 67	276 34	1,221 14	25 0	1,512 48	
Doubling which (at least) to include costs of losing party —Rs.					3,024 96	

XXI.—1884.

REPORT

ON THE

PEARL FISHERY OFF CHILAW

BY CAPT. J. DONNAN,

MASTER ATTENDANT, COLOMBO, AND INSPECTOR OF THE PEARL BANKS.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

PEARL FISHERY OFF CHILAW.

REPORT.

The MASTER ATTENDANT to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Colombo.

No. 177.

Master Attendant's Office,
Colombo, 28th November, 1884.

SIR,—In continuation of my letters No. 156, 164, and 168 of the 23rd October, 10th and 15th instant, respectively, I have the honor to report that I closed the fishery on the 22nd instant, when the divers reported that they had great labour in gathering the oysters landed on that day, and that the bank was exhausted.

2. There were twenty days' fishing altogether, and the total number of oysters fished and landed at Chilaw was 636,000, of which number I sold and issued to traders who went up to Chilaw 22,000 as samples, at the rate of Rs. 30 per thousand, leaving a balance in the kottu at the close of the fishery of 614,000.

3. On the 25th instant the 614,000 oysters were put up for public sale in one lot in my office, and sold to Hajee Shaik Mohamed Kateeb Badsha, of Madras, for Rs. 24,800, which makes the total amount realized for the fishery, including the 22,000 oysters sold at Chilaw, Rs. 25,460. One-third of this sum goes to the divers, as I arranged with them to take charge of their share of oysters and give them one-third of proceeds sale, as was done in fishing the Chilaw Pár in April last. That makes the Government share of the fishing Rs. 16,973·34. To this has to be added Rs. 180, being the amount realized by the sale of the sample pearls from 6,000 oysters lifted before the fishery commenced, and 3,000 oysters lifted in April last; making the total Government share of the fishery Rs. 17,153·34. The expenses of the fishery will amount to about Rs. 4,500, leaving a nett profit of about Rs. 12,653, which is an improvement on the last fishing of the Karrukkuppanai Pár in 1815, when a nett sum of only £364 7*s.* 1*d.* was realized.

4. The weather proved very unfavourable for fishing operations until the last week of them, and, judging by recent experience, I would not feel justified in future in recommending a fishery at this season of the year, except under similar exceptionable circumstances, viz., the probable loss of all oysters if fishing were delayed longer.

5. It may be of some interest to give here a short resumé of the history of the oysters recently fished. They were first discovered by me at the inspection of the Chilaw banks in April, 1882, when they were two years old, and I estimated the number on the two banks, Chilaw Pár and Karrukkuppanai Pár, at 18,345,000. They were next inspected in April, 1883, when the estimated number on both banks was 12,422,447. They were next inspected in April, 1884, when the estimated number on both banks was 3,374,450. At the latter inspection I found the oysters dying off so rapidly, that I determined to make an effort to fish as many of them as possible before the setting in of the S.W. monsoon, but only succeeded in fishing 1,158,028 oysters from the Chilaw Pár; and the Karrukkuppanai Pár was left to be fished in November. There can be no doubt, from the state the oysters were in in April last, that both banks ought to have been fished then, or in March, when they were four years old, but I had from the first fixed upon fishing them at five years of age—March, 1885—the age at which the Arippu oysters have generally been fished, and, as I was merely making an ordinary inspection in April, when they were discovered to be dying off fast, there was then no time to have arranged for fishing both banks. The most was done that could have been done under the circumstances. Had both banks been arranged for fishing in March last, I have no doubt the full number of oysters estimated on them then would have been obtained, and that they would have realized the average price of those that were fished and sold. That would have given a total revenue to Government of about Rs. 45,000, as against Rs. 33,217·86, the amount which has been actually realized by the recent fishery and the one in April last. The lesson taught, and to be remembered in future, by the late fishery, is, that oysters on the banks off Chilaw should be fished when four years old, and that to keep them till the fifth year would be running the risk of losing them altogether. The actual number of oysters fished from the two banks is only about 10 per cent. of the number estimated on them when the oysters were two years old.

6. I shall forward shortly a copy of my diary of the fishery.

I am, &c.,

J. DONNAN,
Master Attendant.

DIARY OF THE PEARL FISHERY OF NOVEMBER, 1884, OFF CHILAW.

Tuesday, 14th October, 1884.

LEFT Colombo harbour this morning at 8 o'clock in the immigration barque *Sultan Iskander* for Chilaw Pearl Banks. The Harbour Works steamer *Active*, which was recently made over to me for the Pearl Fishery service, took us in tow along with the four inspection boats made fast astern, the wind being light, and from the North. The four Pearl Fishery coxswains with 14 divers and 11 munducks came down to Colombo in the *Sultan*. The object of my visit to the Chilaw Banks is to examine the oysters on the Karukkuppanai Pár, and, if they are still to the fore, to lift a sample and arrange for fishing them as soon

as possible. A notice of a probable fishery from this bank in next month, together with a valuation statement of a sample of oysters lifted from it in April last, was published in August, so that merchants, boats, and divers will be on the look-out and prepared to come to Chilaw at short notice.

Passed Negombo at noon, wind N W., and weather very cloudy. Passed Chilaw jail at 7 P.M., and anchored at 8·15 P.M., as we were unable to see our position.

The *Active* towed us up the coast very well, about 4 knots per hour against a head wind, proving herself to be a very useful little steamer.

Wednesday, 15th October.

As soon as it was clear to see the land, this morning found we were still to the southward of the bank; so the *Active* took us in tow about 6 o'clock, and about 6·30 we anchored on the Kurukkuppanai Pár in 7 fathoms with the following bearings:—on Chilaw church S. 26° 30′ E.; centre of Karukkuppanai tóppu S. 66° 45′ E.; and Mutubandi tóppu N. 41° E. Two or three oysters to a dive found from the ship.

Got the quarter- and half-mile buoys laid out by the *Active*, and the boats away to inspect by 8 o'clock; but, before they got one-fourth round the first round, it came on squally with heavy rain, and I was obliged to call them in. They had found, so far as they had gone, 5 to 10 oysters at a dive and some dead shells, so that it appears there are some oysters left on the bank. I was very much afraid that I would find them all dead or disappeared

Noon, blowing fresh from the westward and a nasty sea getting up, with dark cloudy weather, and this weather continued all the rest of the day.

Thursday, 16th October.

We had strong westerly winds and a heavy sea all night, and at daylight this morning the weather seemed to be getting worse, which caused the tindal to send down top-gallant and royal yards to ease the vessel in riding By 10 A M. the wind, still from the westward, increased to a brisk gale, with dark cloudy weather and occasional light rain. I did not expect this sort of weather when I left Colombo. It looks as if there were a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal in the neighbourhood of Madras.

Blowing strong all day from West to W.S.W., and dark cloudy weather, but little or no rain, just an occasional fine drift. Let go the second anchor at 6 P.M., and paid out 45 fathoms on one chain and 60 on the other, which is all the length the vessel has got. A heavy sea on, but vessel riding comfortably. The *Active* close by, is riding beautifully with very little strain on her chains.

Friday, 17th October.

We had a very dirty night of it last night, blowing a hard gale from West to W.S.W., with a heavy sea running and very dark cloudy weather, but no rain. The gale was at its worst from 8 P M. to 2 A.M., when it began to moderate and clear up a little. I was on deck the most of the night, feeling very anxious, as we were on a dead lee shore, and had the cables parted nothing could have saved us from driving ashore; but fortunately the *Sultan* rode out the gale very well, and so did the *Active*. Three of the inspection boats broke adrift about 10 P.M.; one managed to pull back in an hour's time, but as the others did not turn up I felt anxious about them and the boatmen in them. At daylight the gale had abated, and, the weather clearing up, I was glad to observe the two boats at anchor about half a-mile astern. They shortly afterwards pulled back to the ship. Observed that we had dragged our anchors during the night about ¼ mile. I feel certain the gale was the outer verge of a cyclone to the northward of us, and I shall no doubt hear more of it.

The weather cleared up nicely during the day, but the westerly sea still continues, and the wind from S.W. but light.

Saturday, 18th October.

The wind was from South all last night, which brought the vessel broadside on to the heavy Westerly swell, and caused her to roll heavily, so that there was no rest to be got.

Daylight wind S.W by S. and dark clouds to the S.W, with a heavy S.W swell on. The *Active* got up steam and towed the *Sultan* back into her old position before the gale, and then shifted the two Western buoys which had drifted out of position The divers report that the sea is too much discoloured to admit of their seeing what is on the bottom, so we must wait till it settles down before we can commence work.

Went ashore at 11 A.M. to Chilaw, and returned at 6 P M Had some difficulty in getting in and out of the river entrance, owing to the strong current setting out of the river. The channel was close round the end of the reef, on which the sea breaks heavily, and close along the inner side of the reef where the current was running four or five knots. There was no difficulty as regards the surf, although there was a heavy S W. swell on outside. The object of my visit was to see Mudaliyar B. P. Samarakón and select a site for kottus. I found a most excellent site for them about half way up to town on the west side of the river, near a cocoanut garden named Palmyrah Tóddam. I saw the Mudaliyar, and found him willing to be Shroff of the fishery and take charge of the money, and also willing to help me in the erection of a kottu, and such sheds as might be required

S.W. winds all day, and still a heavy S.W. swell on.

Sunday, 19th October.

The boats went out this morning to go over the space buoyed out, and to lift as many oysters as they could towards a sample. It took them up to 2 P.M. to complete the work. They found oysters only in the N.E. quadrant of the ground examined, and nothing but sand and rock in the other parts. They picked up 385 opsters and 278 dead shells in 49 dives, giving an average of 8 to a dive, and 72 per cent of dead shells, which rather dispels our hopes of a fishery; however, it was a very unfavourable day for the divers, there being a strong northerly current, a heavy S.W. swell, and the water still discoloured.

I had a visit to-day from Mr. Cader Mohomado Sina Wappu Kandu, Notary Public at Puttalam, who is the gentleman referred to by the Moorman in the diary of 25th April last. I have had some correspondence with him since on the subject of the Pearl beds in this neighbourhood, resulting in this visit. He is a very feeble old man, and brought his son with him to interpret, and he also brought an old Sinhalese fisherman of Chilaw, named Manuel Perera Moopoo, to point out the banks. He gave me the following list of banks in this neighbourhood, all of which the fisherman said he knew. I asked him (the fisherman) the name of the bank where the ship is now, and he said it was not Karukkuppanai Pár but the Parramattagala, which means, 'the ancient bank.' Mr. C. M. S. W. Kandu and his party left me after being on board about an hour. I told him, if the information he had given me led to the finding of a bank of oysters, which I did

not know of before, I would not fail to represent the matter to Government, with a view to his being rewarded. I arranged with the fisherman to come off at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, and I would take him out in the *Active* to fix the position of the spots he pointed out. Banks referred to :—

Chilaw Banks.

1 —Vellagala in ...	12 fathoms ...	Means white stone.	
2.—Tallapulea ...	12 do. ...	—	
3.—Yackampilea ...	8 do. ...	—	
4 —Hillatuneagala ...	12 do. ...	,,	Name of a fish.
5.—Vannátti ...	4 do. ...	,,	Butterfly.
6.—Parramattagala ...	6 do. ...	,,	Ancient bank, 2 miles long.
7.—Kaattacoolygala ...	8 do. ..	,,	Name of a fish.
8 —Angiagala ...	8 do. ...	—	
9. —Gallmoodagala ...	6 do. ...	,,	Ocean stone.
10.—Atkandygala ...	8 do. ...	,,	Stones like elephants.

Udapankare Banks.

1.—Erukkalai Pár in ...	7 fathoms ...	Means	Name of a tree.
2.—Puli Karaittán Pár in ..	7 do. ...	,,	Tamarind man.
3.—Yanyerrakaalu Pár ...	7 do. ...	,,	Elephants' walking place.
4.—Muttupantaiya Pár ...	8 do. ...	,,	Place of plenty oysters.
5.—Táliyadi Pár ...	6 do. ...	,,	Name of a tree.
6.—Nagul Pár ...	6 do. ...	,,	Name of a village.
7.—Allakattu Pár ...	5 do. ...	,,	Eagle bank
8 —Karukkuppanai Pár ...	6 do. ...	,,	Name of a village.

We have had light Southerly winds all day, and a heavy S.W. swell ; cloudy weather and heavy rain from 6 to 10 P.M. A current setting to the North of about 1½ knot per hour. The *Active* went out to-day and examined the Wannatti Pár, which lies about 1½ mile inshore of us, but nothing was found but sand and rock.

Monday, 20th October.

This morning it was blowing fresh from the Southward, with dark, cloudy weather and rain squalls about, the air rather chilly, and the current still setting strong to the Northward, and a heavy S.W swell on ; consequently I did not send the divers out, as it would have been useless to do so. The weather is most extraordinary and unusual for this time of the year : I suppose it has been disturbed by the recent gale.

I plotted to day the work done by the divers yesterday, with the following result.

Size of bed of oysters 547,000 superficial yards, on which there were 64 per cent of dives with no oysters, giving the actual area of the ground with oysters at 197,000 yards; which would give, allowing 3 yards to a dive, and 8 oysters to an average dive, a total of 525,600 oysters now on the bank. I hope, however, that a further examination on a more favourable day will give a more favourable estimate.

Taken as it stands, however, it shows that since the 1st April last, the area of the bed of oysters has diminished to one third of the extent it was then, and the number of oysters on the bed has diminished to one-fourth. This has taught me the lesson, to be remembered in future, that oysters on the Chilaw banks should be fished when they are four years old, as they cannot be depended on remaining longer than that age. I strongly suspect that this is one of the reasons of the failure of the Tuticorin banks. The oysters on them are probably similar to those on the Chilaw banks, and the authorities there, most likely, strive to keep them to the old orthodox age of 5 and 6 years, with the result that they die off before they attain that age.

The *Active* to day lifted the outer buoys and laid them round the bed of oysters, to guide the boats when they go out again. Mr. Manuel Perera Moopoo has not put in an appearance to-day.

Tuesday, 21st October.

The boats went out this morning to make one round over the bank, and then to anchor and pick up a sample of 6 000 oysters, which they did (in 270 dives giving an average of 22 to a dive), and returned to the ship about noon. The weather to-day was favourable for the work, and therefore a reliable estimate could be formed of the number of oysters on the bank. The result of to-day's inspection gives a smaller area of the bed of oysters than I obtained yesterday ; but, as the divers got a greater number of oysters per dive when the boats were at anchor, thus increasing the average number to a dive, the estimate remains pretty much the same as that formed yesterday—say about 500,000 oysters on the bed. The sample of 6,000 was packed away in tubs and hoisted into the main top to be kept there till it is fit for washing. The dead shells picked up to-day averaged about 12 per cent. of the oysters obtained.

Manuel Perera Moopoo came out this morning with a note from Mr. C. M. S. W. Kandu, informing me that the fisherman did not come out yesterday owing to the severe wetting they all got in going ashore from the ship on Sunday. They did not get up to Chilaw till 8 P.M., and caught all the heavy rain falling about that time. I hope the old man will be none the worse for his wetting.

I took Mr. Moopoo and another man he had brought with him in his canoe out in the *Active*, and went to the different banks pointed out by them by certain marks on shore.

The following are the banks visited, and the result obtained by diving on them with two divers I took with me :—

	Name of Bank.	Depth of water.	What found.
1	Sinna Andy Poey ...	8¼ fathoms ...	One oyster and a few dead shells
2	Hillalamagala ...	8 ,, ...	Rock
3	Kalpandoollonagala ...	8½ ,, ...	Sand
4	Vellagala ...	13 ,, ...	Too deep to be examined
5	Tallapulea ...	10 ,, ...	Rock
6	Gallmoodagala ...	7¾ ,, ...	Rock
8	Angiagala ...	12 ,, ...	Too deep to be examined
9	Karukkuppanai Pár ...	6 ,, ...	Sand close in shore ½ mile off Karukkuppanai

I roughly fixed the position of these, to be carefully inspected at some future time (next March most probably). I asked Mr. Moopoo how it was these were called pearl banks, when no oysters were found; when he said they were not pearl banks, but simply rocky parts known to the fishermen as good places for fishing on. I quite suspected this when I was first informed of these banks. The proper thing to be done is to make a close examination of the whole ground in this neighbourhood. I asked Mr. Moopoo about pointing out the Udapankara banks, and he said that they all lay in a line about two miles off shore, from the Wanatti Pár up to Udapankara, so that I shall have no difficulty in finding them. He said the Atkandygála lies far out at sea, right off Muttupantaiya. I paid Mr. Moopoo Rs. 6 for his trouble, and he left me at 5 P.M. well satisfied.

The *Active* went back after this and buoyed off the Sinna Andy Poey, to be examined by the boats to-morrow. This bank lies close to the Chilaw Pár, on the east side of it—in fact, it is part of the Chilaw Pár, and allthat ground was examined by me a few years ago.

This has been the first day of favourable weather for inspection work since we came up here.

Wednesday, 22nd October.

The boats were sent out this morning to examine the Sinna Andy Poey, and the space between that and the ship, which they did, and returned to to the ship at 10 30 A.M They found 52 old oysters and 46 dead shells within the buoys placed on Sinna Andy Poey, in 20 dives, and between that and the ship nothing but sand and a few dives on rock.

Started in the *Active* for Colombo at noon (taking with me coxswain Sokina), to report the state of the bank to Government, and arrange for fishing up the oysters on it. I think the best thing to be done is to get about 100 divers and ten boats, and fish all on Government account, placing the oysters in a kottu, and sell them all in one lot when the bank is fished.

Arrived in Colombo Harbour at 6·20 P. M.

Thursday, 23rd October.

Reported to Government to-day the state of the bank, and recommended its being fished at once with as many boats and divers as are available in Colombo, to store the oysters in a kottu, and, when the bank is fished, to sell all in one lot in Colombo.

Was informed that about 50 divers and seven boats can be got in Colombo. Arranged to take them to Chilaw in tow of the *Active* as soon as they can be got ready, but was informed that they would not be ready till Monday next.

Friday, 24th October.

Arranged to-day for getting the bambus and kadjans requisite for fencing in a kottu and watch-hut. Was informed some more divers are available.

Saturday, 25th October.

Got the bambus to-day and set as many of my boatmen as could be spared to work cutting them up in the required lengths for posts, and splitting them up for fitting in between the posts.

Called at the Colonial Office, and was informed that Government had approved of my recommendation regarding the fishery.

Sunday, 26th October.—In Colombo.

Monday, 27th October.

Was informed to-day that 110 divers and 8 boats were ready to go. Arranged to start with them in tow of the *Active* early to-morrow morning. Bambus and kadjans ready; ordered them to be stowed away in the boats going to Chilaw. Engaged four kottu watchers under Anthony, late a Pilot in my Department, who I am taking with me to be in charge of the kottu.

Some pearl merchants called on me to-day and asked for some of the oysters to be sold in Chilaw, to enable them to find out their value. I agreed to this, and told them I would offer for sale 50,000 of the first day's fishing, and circulated a notice accordingly amongst pearl merchants in Colombo.

Tuesday, 28th October.

When I came down to the Wharf this morning, found only six boats and fifty divers ready to start, the others refusing to go till after their festival, which comes on in a day or two.

Started at 8 A.M. with the 6 boats and 50 drivers in tow of the *Active*, and left orders for the others to follow as soon as possible. Cast off the boats at the mouth of the Deduru-oya at 4 P.M. Sent Anthony and the kottu guard in them and told them I would land early to-morrow morning with the inspection staff of boatmen and divers to fit up the kottu. I then went off to the *Sultan Iskander* on the bank.

Wednesday, 29th October.

This morning landed the inspection staff of divers, munducks, and boatmen, and set them to work under the coxswains, fitting up the kottu, watchers' shed, and shed for the man in charge of the kottu. I selected a side for the kottu on the high ground, about 200 yards to the north of the cocoanut garden named Palmyrah Tóddam, and close to a very good landing place for the boats. The size of the oyster kottu was fixed at 20 feet square, and sides 4 feet 6 inches high, the ridge pole of the roof being 10 feet high and the outer fence 60 feet by 40, with the watchers' shed within it on the north side. I remained on shore all day, and returned to the *Sultan Iskander* in the evening. Good progress was made with the kottu, &c., and I think all will be finished to-morrow ready for beginning the fishery on Friday.

There was heavy rain from the north-east all the afternoon.

Thursday, 30th October.

To-day all arrangements for beginning the fishery to-morrow were completed. The oyster kottu has been made secure, roofed over with cadjans, and the floor and sides lined with cadjans and mats. The divers and boatmen have made themselves snug quarters amongst the cocoanut trees of Palmyrah Tóddam There are eight boats with eighty divers ready, besides the Government inspection boats. I have arranged for the *Active* to be at the bar early every morning, to tow the boats out, and in again in the afternoons, should there be no breeze for them to sail in. Instructed Anthony and the watchers about the charge of the kottu, and the receipt of oysters from the boats.

Left the kottu at 4.30 P.M. for the *Sultan Iskander* in a heavy downpour of rain, and very nearly had the boat swamped in crossing the bar, where there was a very nasty sea caused by the strong current running out against the sea from a fresh Northerly breeze. Saw a fishing dhony at the Pár, which had arrived from Colombo to-day.

The rain continued heavy this afternoon from 3 to 7 P. M.

Friday, 31st October.

Eight boats and the four Government boats were brought out by the *Active* to the bank this morning by seven o'clock, and shortly after the divers were at work. I am afraid, though, it is a bad day for beginning work, as the sea is very much discoloured from the freshes running out of the Deduru-oya.

Observed another boat coming out under sail at 8.30 A.M.; sent the *Active* for her, and by 9 she was on the bank. That makes 9 dhonies and 4 Government boats at work to-day, in all 92 divers.

At 2 P.M. the boats knocked off work and started for the shore under sail, with a fresh N.N.W. breeze. I got under weigh in the *Active* and followed them. Found a very nasty sea on the bar, shipped a lot of water in the boat I was in, and one dhony and a Government boat were filled with water, but got in after a good deal of trouble. The Government boat was slightly injured, but the oysters in both boats were saved. The total of the day's fishing came to 46,286 oysters, about half of the number I expected, but the divers complained of the water being thick, preventing their seeing properly, and also that the oysters were covered over with sand about three inches thick; perhaps this accounts for so few oysters being found as compared with April last. I had some trouble in counting the oysters into the kottu, owing to the boat counters not having put a similar number of oysters in each bag, but by 5 P.M. I had all put away and the door securely locked, and took the keys with me.

On crossing the bar when returning to the ship the boat shipped some heavy seas and I was afraid she would be swamped. The Northerly and N.W. winds cause a very nasty sea on the bar when the freshes are on.

Saturday, 1st November.

The *Active* did not get out with the boats this morning till 7.30, and it was 8 before the divers got to work. The water is much clearer to-day, and I hope for a better result than yesterday. The same number of boats and divers are out to-day as yesterday. At 1.30 P.M. hoisted the signal for the boats to start for the shore in consequence of a heavy-looking squall making up in the N.E., which caught the boats before they got over the bar. I followed the boats in the *Active* and anchored off the bar, just as the squall came down with a perfect torrent of rain. Waited for it to pass over before landing, but as it did not show any signs of taking off, I was obliged to start, and when I got to the kottu the divers and boatman were there shivering with cold from the drenching they had got. The total days' take amounted to 51,270 oysters, which were put into the kottu. There were four traders at the kottu enquiring about the sale of oysters as notified by me before leaving Colombo. I told them that I must keep back the sale till more merchants arrived. The divers said that they found most of the oysters to-day embedded in sand, just the tips of the shells as they stood on the hinge being above the sand, and some completely covered. The boatmen wanted rest to-morrow, being Sunday, but I told them that having just commenced the fishery, I could not give them a day's rest so soon. I returned to the *Sultan* at 6 P.M. Still raining. The bar was not so bad to cross to-day as yesterday.

Sunday, 2nd November.

The boats did not get out this morning till 8 o'clock. The coxswains said they had great trouble in getting them to start, it being Sunday.

Washed the sample of 6,000 oysters on board to-day. Horrible stench from those headed up in the close barrel, but not so bad from those in the open tub. The sea is discoloured again to-day from the freshes from the river after yesterday evening's heavy rain, but otherwise the weather is fine for our work as regards the sea being smooth. Hoisted the flag for the boats to start on shore at 2 P.M., and I followed them in the *Active*. Got up to the kottu at 3, and by 4 had all the oysters counted and stowed away in the kottu, with the exception of one boat stranded at the bar in coming in. The divers complained to me at the kottu of the water being cold and discoloured, and the oysters embedded in sand, and the difficulty of getting them up under such circumstances. They begged for a day's rest to get themselves warm and apply medicine to their ears, which they said were aching from the cold water. I tried to persuade them to come out to-morrow and work every day till Sunday next, which I promised to give them, but I am doubtful of their coming out to-morrow. On my way back to the *Sultan* I removed the men and oysters from the boat stranded inside of the bar, to the end of the spit, and told them to carry the oysters up to the kottu, which they proceeded to do in charge of the boats' counter, who gave me the number of his oysters at 3,620, which makes the total day's take 28,075—a very poor day's work. A heavy rain squall made up in the N.E just as the boats got underweigh for the shore, but luckily they all, with the exception of the one stranded, got to the kottu before the rain came down.

Monday, 3rd November.

The boats were all out this morning on the bank, with the exception of the one stranded yesterday, by 7·30, and diving was fairly commenced by 8. A nice calm morning, and water clear at first, but about 9 A.M it became much discoloured from a strong set-out from the river. Had the deposit containing the sample pearls spread out on the poop to dry early in the morning; started the boats for the shore at 2 P.M. with a fresh N.W breeze; followed them in the *Active*. Got to the kottu at 3, and by 4 had all the oysters stowed away. The total day's fishing amounted to 37,424 oysters. The divers begged so hard to-day for a day's rest to-morrow, that I was obliged to give in to them. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6 P.M.; had a nasty head sea coming out.

Tuesday, 4th November.

No boats out this morning; and it is just as well I gave the divers a holiday, as they could have done no work, owing to dark cloudy weather with drizzling rain and the wind shifting about. The weather, however cleared up about midday and a sea breeze set in from the westward, but there was heavy rain in the evening from south and south-west.

Wednesday, 5th November.

The *Active* brought all the boats out this morning and they were at work by 8 o'clock. The weather is fine, though cloudy; but just as the divers had got nicely to work, a current from the direction of the

river brought out a lot of discoloured water, which spread all over the bank, and I fear will interfere with the divers. Sent the boats on shore at 2 P.M., followed them in the *Active*, and got to the kottu at 4.30, being detained at the bar by a heavy squall of wind and rain. The day's take of oysters has proved to be the largest one yet, being in all 75,343 oysters, which were stowed away in the kottu by 5 P.M., and I returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30. When I was at the kottu some traders asked me if I was going to sell any oysters, and I said *yes*, if they would give me Rs. 30 per thousand for them, at which they turned away. Afterwards one of them asked me if I would take Rs. 20·50 per thousand for the whole lot. I said *no*—that the whole lot would be put up for sale in Colombo after due notice in the papers.

Thursday, 6th November.

This morning the weather is dark and cloudy with a long swell from S.W. The boats were all got out on the bank by the *Active* at 7.30. This forenoon I had the pearls of the sample carefully washed and weighed, and found them to weigh 451 grains (= 58½ manjadys, at 7·70 grains to the manjady) or 9¾ manjadys per thousand oysters.

The pearls of the sample lifted in the April last (3,000 oysters) weighed 128 grains, and were valued at Rs. 35·25. The present sample is therefore an increase in weight of 76 per cent. over the April sample, and if the pearls are equal in quality, which I think they are, the present value of the oysters is Rs. 20·66 per thousand, and they should sell at about Rs. 25 per thousand, judging by the average price realized for the oysters in April.

Received from Mr. Pike in Colombo the following telegram:—"From P. C. Sithampara Chetty, Ma-"dura, to Master Attendant.—I agree to purchase 500,000 oysters at Rs. 14 per thousand. If you approve "this, telegraph immediately. On receipt of your reply will start with money to accept the lot." Mr. Pike writes, that as the answer was prepaid, and as he was not authorized to accept or refuse the offer, he replied as follows:—"Proceed to Colombo and bid. Sale to take place shortly."

The wind being from S.S.W. this afternoon, I was obliged to tow the boats to the bar by the *Active*. Owing to one of the boat's anchor being foul of a rock, we did not get fairly started from the bank till 3 P.M. Cast them off at the bar at 4, and by 5 30 all the oysters were stowed away in the kottu. The total day's take came to 40,368 oysters. The divers said that a strong current prevented their getting more. Got back to the *Sultan* at 6.30; had a heavy S.W. squall of wind and rain on the way, and after I got on board the wind and rain increased, and a nasty S.W. sea got up, and a regular dirty night set in with intense darkness all round. I fear there is not much chance of the boats coming out to-morrow.

I was amused when at the kottu to-day to receive the following petition addressed to me:—

"The humble petition of Muttusamy Iyer, now at Munnessaram.

"Respectfully showeth,—That the petitioner is the officiating priest of the temple Munnessaram, an ancient sacred building dedicated to Munne Isparam, which was built by Kikkerarabáhu III. in 1371. That several paddy lands and other produces of the district were originally granted to the Munne Isparam, of which a share of the pearl fishery—that is, a boat load per day—was also granted, which practice was continued at every time of the fishery at Chilaw The fishery having been commenced again after several years, the petitioner begs to remind the same, and pray that the said privilege be granted and continued,

"For which act of kindness, &c.,

Chilaw, 5th November, 1884. (Signed by the Petitioner.)

I informed the petitioner that he must apply to Government, as I had no authority in the matter, but at the same time I doubted his request being granted, as Government had disallowed all temple claims to a share of a fishery many years ago.

Friday, 7th November.

The weather had cleared up this morning; wind S.S.E, but still a heavy S.W. swell on. The boats were brought out by the *Active* at 8 A.M., and they began work sharp, but about 10 I observed the divers sitting in the boats idle, and was informed that they were unable to dive from the strong current setting to the northwards, and they did little or no work for the rest of the day. At 2 P.M., the wind being S.S.W., took the boats to the bar in tow of the *Active*, and by 4 they had all reached the kottu, and shortly afterwards the small day's take of oysters—14,466—were all stowed away in the kottu. The divers complained of their small loads, but I told them I could not control the currents.

Returned to the *Sultan* at 6 P.M. and found the S.W. swell had gone down a good deal, and appearances of the S.Westerly wind taking up.

Saturday, 8th November.

The wind this morning was light from the eastward, but the S.W. swell still keeps up; the weather is very cloudy, and the surface of the sea thick with muddy water from the freshes. The *Active* brought the boats out at 7.30., but owing to the discoloured water I fear the divers won't be able to do much work. Resolved on going down to Colombo to-day to report progress to Government, get the sample valued, and advertise a day of sale. Consulted the coxswains as to the number of days' fishing yet to be expected, and they said that the fishing will go on all next week, and that they are confident of getting in 600,000 oysters.

Ordered them to go on with the fishing in my absence, taking rest to-morrow, and to have the oysters carefully put away in the kottu as I have been doing. I also gave these orders last evening to Anthony, in charge of the kottu.

The wind being likely to be favourable to-day for the boats to get in, started for Colombo at noon.

Before starting, a merchant who came up from Colombo to look at the oysters, and to whom I yesterday promised a passage back to Colombo in the *Active*, asked me for 2,000 oysters to take with him to Colombo, to wash and test for himself their value. I told him, that I would not sell an oyster of this fishery for less than Rs. 30 per thousand; so he paid me Rs. 60, and I gave him the 2,000 oysters. Arrived in Colombo at 6.30 P.M., and met my clerk (Mr. Mortimer) at the Wharf, who told me that he had arranged with three respectable pearl merchants to value the pearl sample at the office to-morrow.

Sunday, 9th November.

Attended office to-day and had the sample valued, the result being as follows :—Total weight of pearls 57¼ manjadys, valued at Rs. 124·16, being an increase in weight of pearls and value of 76 per cent. over the sample lifted last April. The valuers looked upon the sample as a very good one. Telegraphed to a Madras man, who bought largely at the fisheries of 1880 and 1881, about the sale of oysters.

Monday, 10th November.

Wrote to Government to-day about the fishery, and asked for authority to advertise the sale to take place in Colombo on the 20th instant, which I got. I then sent a notice of sale showing the value of the sample to the papers. Had a visit from several Chetties, who had come over from Madura to buy the oysters, amongst whom were P. C. Sithampara Chetty, who asked me for a sample of 10,000 oysters, which I promised to give him, and then he paid me a deposit of Rs. 300 on account. He asked me for a passage to Chilaw in the *Active*, which I agreed to. Another dealer, named R. M. Sinna Kanny, of Tondi, then came up and asked for a sample of 20,000 oysters, but I only agreed to give him 10,000. He also paid me a deposit of Rs. 300 on account. I thought it would benefit the sale by letting these people have the samples to prove for themselves the quality of the oysters.

Tuesday, 11th November.

Left Colombo in the *Active* at 7.40 A.M., P. C. Sithampara Chetty and his friends on board. N.W. wind and rain with a confused swell on outside the Breakwater, so that I fear the boats won't be out on the bank to-day. Arrived on the bank at 2 P.M., and found only one boat and the four Government boats out, and was informed that they had only got out at 10 A.M. All the boats started in the morning, but the rest of them had to put back from the N W. wind. Took the five boats in tow to the bar and got up to the kottu at 4 P.M There I found that Saturday's fishing came to 28,760 oysters, including the 2,000 I gave to the trader on the bank, yesterday's to 37,202 oysters, and to-day's to 5,295. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6 P.M., and directed the *Active* to be at the bar early to-morrow morning to bring the boats out.

Wednesday, 12th November.

The *Active* brought all the boats out to the bank by 7 A.M., and shortly afterwards the divers went to work with a will, being cheered with the prospect of the oysters selling at a high price ; which, for their sakes, I hope may be the case, as they certainly have worked laboriously at this fishery for their earnings, whatever they may prove to be. At 2 P.M. the boats left the bank under sail with a nice westerly breeze. I followed in the *Active* and got to the kottu at 3.30, and had all the oysters stowed away by 4.30. The day's take came to 47,467 oysters I issued this afternoon the two sample lots of 10,000 each to Sithampara Chetty and Sinna Kanny, who had small kottus erected for them close to the Government kottu. Just before I left the kottu, a lot of divers came up to me and asked to be allowed to work, saying that twenty of them had just arrived from Kílakkari. I told them by all means to try and get boats, and come out to the bank to-morrow morning.

Returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30 P.M. The weather to-day was fine for our work.

Thursday, 13th November.

The *Active* brought the boats out to the bank at 7 A.M., and the divers soon after began work. The new divers who arrived yesterday could only get one boat, so ten of them came out in it, and the other ten divided themselves amongst the other boats. We have 14 boats and 120 divers in all at work to-day. At 1.45 P.M , the weather looking squally and unsettled, but a nice westerly breeze blowing, hoisted the signal for the boats to start, and I followed them in the *Active* ; but I had just started when the wind veered round to S.S.W , and I was obliged to pick up all the boats and take them in tow Cast them off at the bar at 3.30, and at 4 all had got up to the kottu. By 5.30 all the oysters of the day's take (59,931) had been stowed away. The bulk of the oysters to-day were smaller than usual, being found under heaps of dead shells. Another boat with ten divers arrived to-day ; gave them leave to come out to-morrow. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30, with dark cloudy weather and rain, wind from N.W.

Friday, 14th November.

Last night from 12 to 2 it blew a gale from S.W. with heavy rain, and a heavy sea got up. The ship dragged our anchor, and a second one was let go. At daylight wind S.S.E., but very cloudy. I did not expect the boats to come out, but at 7.30 the *Active* brought them all out, including the one that arrived yesterday. Dark cloudy weather and rain set in at 8, wind S.S.W. ; only a few of the boats at work. Incessant rain having set in at noon, sent the boats ashore in tow of the *Active*, but owing to a strong S.S.W. breeze, they did not get to the bar till 2 P.M Had a violent squall from S.W., and very heavy rain at 3 P.M. with increasing sea ; let go the second anchor and veered out all chain. Up to 10 P.M , we had a succession of violent squalls from S.W. with constant heavy rain and dark gloomy weather and heavy sea. I fear there is another cyclone to the northward, as this is most unusual weather.

Saturday, 15th November, 1884.

At daylight this morning, wind light from S.E., and weather clearing up, but still heavy masses of clouds about. The S.W. sea gone down a good deal. Strong current running to the northward, and surface of the sea quite brownish from the freshes from the river. The *Active* brought the four Government boats out at 7 A M., but owing to the current and thick water I was obliged to send them ashore again. The coxswains informed me that yesterday only 4,390 oysters were lifted. The weather cleared up nicely during the day, and in the afternoon there was a nice N.W. breeze. Wrote to Government that in consequence of the recent bad weather I have put off the sale of the oysters in Colombo till the 25th instant, instead of the 20th, and sent notices of the same to Mr. Mortimer, my clerk, to be published in the newspapers. I find also, that if I were to go down in the *Active* on the 19th to hold the sale on the 20th, and not be back till the 22nd, probably the fishery would practically be stopped in the interval, and what I would like to do now is, to finish the fishery before I leave (say) by Saturday next, if the divers be able to work all next week, and then I shall know the exact number of oysters for sale. I can't be certain of the boats getting out and in without the *Active* being here.

Sunday, 16th November.

This morning there was a fresh N.N.E. breeze blowing, and clear weather. The *Active* brought the boats out at 8, and by 8.30 the divers were all at work. Sent the boats ashore at 2 P.M. with a fresh N.W. breeze; followed them in the *Active*, and got to the kottu at 3·30, and had the oysters stowed away by 4. The day's take was a small one, only 29,113 oysters. Informed the two men to whom I gave sample oysters that I had written to Colombo putting off the sale till the 25th, in order to finish the fishery before I go down to the sale. Received a telegram from Hajie Shaik Mohamed Kateel Sahib that he was leaving Madras for Colombo by the *Almora* on the 13th. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6 P.M.; had a very nasty sea on the bar, and was nearly swamped both going in and coming out

Monday, 17th November.

This morning a nice breeze from N.E., and clear weather. The *Active* brought the boats out at 7.30 A.M., and shortly afterwards the divers were at work. About 10 A.M. a current from the southward brought out the muddy water from the river and spread it over the bank, which I fear will interfere with the divers' work. Sent the boats in at 2 P.M. with a fresh N.N.W. breeze, but not so strong as yesterday. Followed them in the *Active*, and got to the kottu at 3.30. Had all the oysters stowed away by 4.30, the day's take being 29,775. The divers are complaining of the scarcity of oysters. Some of them said to-day that if I would take them to the bank fished in April last, they would get plenty of oysters. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30 P.M.

Tuesday, 18th November.

Fine weather this morning with a nice N.E. breeze. The *Active* brought the boats out at 7 o'clock, and by 7.30 the divers had begun work. About 10 one of the coxswains came to me and reported that the bank was done—very few oysters to be got—so I shifted the vessel to the Chilaw Pár with a view of letting the boats work on it for a day or two, to see if they could pick up any oysters from those left from April's fishing. At 2 P.M. hoisted the flag for the boats to leave for the shore, and started shortly afterwards in the *Active*, placing on the way ashore a buoy as nearly as possible on the centre of the bank fished in April. Got to the kottu at 3.30 P.M., and had all the oysters (29,375) of the day's take stowed away in the kottu by 4.30. In consequence of there being more oysters got to-day than I expected, decided on letting the boats go to-morrow to the same bank, and not to the Chilaw Pár. I met to-day on shore Captain Wicks, the Acting Port Officer of Tuticorin, who has specially been sent over by the Madras Government to see what is going on at this fishery. Stopped on shore this evening.

Wednesday, 19th November.

This morning got down to the *Active* at the bar by 6.30, and found all the boats out, and made fast astern; got underweigh at once, and went out to the Karrukkuppanai Pár, where we arrived, and cast off the boats at 7.30. Very fine morning, but a strong current running to the N.W. Captain Wicks accompanied me, and after waiting amongst the boats for some time, to let him see the diving, went on to the *Sultan* at anchor on the Chilaw Pár. Hoisted the flag for the boats to start on shore at 2 P.M., and shortly after went ashore in the *Active*. Got to the kottu at 3.30 P.M., and had all the oysters (22,164) of the day's take showed away by 4.40. Remained on shore this evening.

Thursday, 20th November.

This morning got down to the *Active* at the bar by 6.30, and found all the boats had just come out, and made fast astern. Got under weigh and took them out to the buoy placed on Sinna Andy Poey Pár on the 22nd October, as the divers complained yesterday that the Karrukkuppanai Pár was fished out. Gave them an hour's trial of this bank, and at the end of that time took them in tow on to the Chilaw Pár, as the divers said there were very few oysters to be got, and then I went on to the *Sultan*, Captain Wicks accompanying me. About 1 P.M. I observed that two of the boats had left the Chilaw Pár and gone back to Sinna Andy Poey Pár, close by, and some of them had knocked off diving, so that evidently there are not many oysters to be got on the Chilaw Pár. Hoisted the signal for the boats to start on shore at 2 P.M., and shortly afterwards I followed them, getting to the kottu at 3.30, and having all the oysters stowed away by 4 The day's take was only 11,410 oysters, so that it is quite evident that there are no oysters to be got on the Chilaw or Sinna Andy Poey Pár. Whilst I was at the kottu I received a note from Hajee Shaik Mohamed Shahib that he had arrived at Chilaw. I met him at 5 o'clock at the Government bungalow, and arranged to take him in the *Active* to-morrow to see the diving on the bank, as he expressed a strong wish to do so. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30 P.M. South-westerly winds prevailed all day, but light.

Friday, 21st November.

This morning the *Active* brought all the boats out to the Karukkuppanai Pár at 7.30, and then came on to the *Sultan*. I then went on board and returned to the bank to show Hajie Shaik Mohamed Sahib the diving, as I had arranged to do yesterday, but he was so sea-sick that he was glad to be taken back on shore after seeing one or two dives. I had promised him a passage back to Colombo in the *Active*, but after this morning's experiences of her lively motions, he politely declined, preferring to return by land.

After seeing him in the boat at the bar, I returned to the *Sultan* at 11 A.M., and then sent the *Active* to lift the buoys on the Chilaw and Sinna Andy Poey banks.

Hoisted the signal for the boats to go on shore at 2 P.M., and followed them in the *Active*. Got to the kottu at 3.30, but it was 4.30 when the last boat arrived, and 5 before I got all the oysters stowed away. The day's take was only 17,227 oysters, and the divers complained of the difficulty they now have in getting any oysters. They are evidently tired of it, and I consider that the bank is exhausted; so I told the divers that to-morrow would be the last day's fishing. They then asked me to let them have their share of to-morrow's oysters, as they wanted to open them and try their luck in getting pearls. I promised them their share of oysters if they succeeded in getting in 20,000 altogether, as I wanted to have 600,000 in the kottu for sale, excluding the 22,000 I have already issued to traders as samples. Returned to the *Sultan* at 6.30 P.M.

South-westerly winds and a considerable swell still prevail.

Saturday, 22nd November.

This morning the *Active* brought the boats out at 7.30 A.M. to the Karrukkuppanai Pár, and shortly after the divers went to work. The wind was S.S.E. this morning, and I think the S.W. winds are done,

although the swell from that quarter still keeps up. Gave the boats half an hour longer on the bank to-day, and therefore did not hoist the flag for them to start for the shore till 2·30 P.M. Followed them in the *Active* and got up the kottu at 4. The day's take of oysters came to 20,659, all of which I put in the kottu, as some divers wanted their share and others did not, and I would not give them their day's share as promised, unless all of them took it. I asked the divers if they would go out again, seeing that they had done so well to-day; but they said *no*—the bank is clean finished—that they worked very hard to get the 20,000 to please me, and that they would not be able to get half that number again; so I decided on closing the fishery, as I felt satisfied in my own mind that the bank is well cleared up. The total number of oysters fished is 636,000, out of which I have issued 22,000 to merchants as samples, leaving 614,000 as the number of oysters now in the kottu. Closed the kottu up securely, and left strict orders with Anthony and the watchers to watch it carefully until handed over to the purchaser. Ordered the coxswains to come off to-morrow morning with the Government boats and divers, and I returned to the Sultan at 6·30 P.M.

We had very fine weather to-day with a westerly sea breeze in the afternoon, so that the spell of S.W. winds is evidently over.

Sunday, 23rd November, 1884.

This morning the *Active* went out and lifted the buoys from the Karrukkuppanai Púr, and then went in and brought out the Government boats with the divers and some merchants, to whom I promised a passage to Colombo. Started in the *Active* for Colombo at 11·30 A.M., the *Sultan Iskander* following under sail with the Government boats in tow. Arrived in Colombo at 6 P.M.

Tuesday, 25th November, 1884.

At 1 P.M. to-day held the sale of oysters in Chilaw kottu. Hajie Shaik Mohamed Kateeb Sahib was the purchaser of the whole lot for Rs. 24,800, there being close competition between him and a Chetty from Madura named Arunasalam Chetty.

J. DONNAN,
Inspector of Pearl Banks.

XXII.—1884.

CART REGISTRATION, COLOMBO-UVA ROAD.

REPORT of a SELECT-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report on the continuance of the system of "Cart Registration on the Colombo-Uva Road, and to suggest measures to provide that the cost thereof be defrayed by the proceeds of a Toll on the Road."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 26th November, 1884.

"Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Select-Committee to report on the continuance of the system of Cart registration on the Colombo-Uva road, and to suggest measures to provide that the cost thereof be defrayed by the proceeds of a toll on the road.

The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. G. W. PATERSON, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. R. A. BOSANQUET,
The Hon. R. B. DOWNALL,
} Unofficial Members."

CART REGISTRATION, COLOMBO-UVA ROAD

REPORT.

The Select Committee appointed to report on the continuance of the system of Cart Registration on the Colombo–Uva road, and to suggest measures to provide that the cost thereof be defrayed by the proceeds of a toll on the road, have the honour to report as follows :—

The Committee, after very careful consideration, are of opinion that in order to avoid any special legislation for one particular road, canal, or river, in any portion of the Island, it is advisable to introduce an Ordinance empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to authorize by Proclamation the levy of a fee, not exceeding 50 cents, at any fixed place on such road, canal, or river, as may be deemed advisable, such fee to be levied on all carts or boats plying for hire, the proceeds to be expended towards defraying the cost of the Police supervision and other incidental expenses connected with such supervision and protection.

With this object, the Committee beg to bring up with this report, draft of a short Ordinance, which they hope may answer the purpose, and meet the very important requirements of the case.

The Committee recommend that this Ordinance should only be brought into operation on the Colombo-Uva road, and that it should continue in force only until the 31st December, 1886, or until the end of the Legislative Session which may be then sitting.

F. FLEMING.
G. W. PATERSON.
F R. SAUNDERS.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
R. A. BOSANQUET.
R. B. DOWNALL.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 19th December, 1884.

PROPOSED DRAFT OF

An Ordinance to ensure the supervision and safe transit of Goods, Produce, and Merchandize from one part of this Island to another.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for the supervision and safe transit of goods, produce, and merchandize from one part of this Island to another : Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows :—

To provide for security of goods, &c., in transit, Governor and Executive Council may authorize fees to be levied at certain places

1. Whenever it shall be deemed advisable by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, that along any particular public road, river, or canal of this Island, goods, produce, or merchandize conveyed in carts or boats should be supervised and protected, the Governor, with the advice of such Council may by Proclamation authorize at any particular place or places along such road, river, or canal, the levy of a fee for the purposes of defraying the expenses of the protection and supervision of goods, produce, and merchandize as aforesaid, and may fix the amount of the fee to be so levied ; provided the same shall not exceed 50 cents for each cart, and provided that whenever a fee shall be authorized to be so levied the same shall be notified in the *Government Gazette*.

Police on roads where fees may be collected authorized to require production of licence and cart note.

2. Whenever a fee shall be authorized to be levied under the last preceding section, it shall be lawful for any officer of police, at any place along the public road, river, or canal where such fee is to be collected, to call upon any carter to produce the cart licence and cart notes of the cart of which he is in charge ; and if such carter fail to produce either one or the other or both, it shall be lawful for the police officer to require the carter to furnish such information as should have appeared upon such licence and cart note.

Carter failing to produce licence and cart-note, liable to penalty.

3. Any carter who fails to produce the licence and cart note or either, when called upon under the provisions of the last preceding section, or who shall refuse to give, if required, the information authorized by that section to be demanded of him, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding
rupees

Moneys received for the purposes of this Ordinance to pay necessary costs of further supervision of roads in transit.

4. All moneys which may be collected under this Ordinance shall be expended in defraying the cost of the police and other incidental expenses along the road, river, or canal, on which such fee or fees may be levied, but for no other purposes whatsoever.

Term "cart" only to include carts plying for hire, and not coaches, carriages, and hackeries.

5. The term "cart" in this Ordinance means a cart conveying goods, produce or merchandize, but shall not include a carriage, coach, or hackery.

6. This Ordinance shall continue in force until the 31st day of December inclusively, 1886, or, if the Legislative Council be then in session, then until the end of such session.

XXIII.—1884.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO AND REPORT UPON

THE ABUSES ALLEGED TO EXIST IN THE WORKING

OF THE

MINOR COURTS OF THE ISLAND.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

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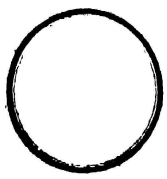
COMMISSION OF APPOINTMENT.

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

By His Excellency the Honourable Arthur Hamilton Gordon, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Ceylon, with the Dependencies thereof.



ARTHUR GORDON.

To the Honourable *James VanLangenberg*, Member of Our Legislative Council; the Honourable *Ponambalam Rámа-Náthan*, Member of Our Legislative Council; *George Sanders Williams*, Esquire, of the Ceylon Civil Service; *Francis Robert Ellis*, Esquire, of the Ceylon Civil Service; and *James Sinclair*, Esquire, Greeting:

Know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in Your prudence, ability, and fidelity, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do nominate, constitute and appoint you, *James VanLangenberg*, *Ponambalam Rámа-Náthan*, *George Sanders Williams*, *Francis Robert Ellis*, and *James Sinclair*, to be a Commission for the purpose of making inquiry into and reporting on the abuses which are alleged to exist in the working of the Minor Courts of this Island.

And We do hereby authorize and empower you, Our said **Commissioners**, to make all necessary inquires into such abuses, and to suggest remedies for those that may be shown to exist.

And We do hereby further authorize and empower you, Our said **Commissioners**, to exercise, for the purpose of carrying on the said inquiry, the powers given to **Commissioners** appointed by Us under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1872, entitled "An Ordinance to empower **Commissioners** appointed by the Governor, to inquire into any matter referred to them for enquiry, to hear evidence thereon."

And We do hereby command and require you our said **Commissioners** to report to Us under your hands upon the matters referred to you as aforesaid.

Given at Kandy, this Fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-four.

By His Excellency's command,

GEO. T. M. O'BRIEN,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

LETTER from the CHAIRMAN OF THE MINOR COURTS COMMISSION to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY forwarding the Report of the Commission.

Colombo, 10th November, 1884.

HONORABLE SIR,—I have the honour to return the Commission which accompanied your letter of the 18th day of March last, with the report of the Commissioners on the matters referred to them, and to request you to be good enough to lay the report before His Excellency the Governor.

I have the honor to return Mr. Sinclair's letter which was forwarded to me with your letter of the 2nd ultimo.

I have, &c.,

JAMES VAN LANGENBERG,
Chairman of the Minor Courts Commission.

MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

REPORT.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir ARTHUR HAMILTON GORDON, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Ceylon, with the Dependencies thereof.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Terms of the Commission.

1. YOUR Excellency having been pleased to issue a Commission under the Public Seal of the Island, bearing date the Fourteenth day of March, One thousand Eight hundred and Eighty-four, appointing us a Commission "for the purpose of making enquiry into and reporting on the abuses "which are alleged to exist in the working of the Minor Courts of this Island," and authorizing and empowering us "to make all necessary enquiries into such abuses, and to suggest remedies "for those that may be shown to exist," and further empowering us to exercise, for the purpose of carrying on the said enquiry, the powers given to Commissioners appointed under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1872, we, in the execution of the duty imposed upon us, made the desired enquiry on the matters referred to us, and have the honour to submit our report.

Limitation to Western and Central Provinces.

2. By letter of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, of date the Eighteenth day of March, 1884, which accompanied the Commission, we were advised of Your Excellency's "wish, that in "the first instance, at all events, the enquiry should be confined to the Courts of the Western "and Central Provinces," and it was subsequently intimated to us by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary's letter of date the Twenty-eighth day of July, 1884, that Your Excellency considered it unnecessary that the Courts of the remaining Provinces should be inspected. We accordingly limited our enquiry to the Provinces first mentioned.

Correspondence with Planters' Association.

3. As we were aware that the Commission had been appointed at the instance of the Ceylon Planters' Association, we, at our first meeting, resolved upon inviting the assistance of that body. Accordingly, by letter dated the 2nd day of April, 1884,* we requested the Association to favour us with information as to the general character and nature of the abuses which were alleged to exist in the working of the Minor Courts. This letter was acknowledged by a communication dated the 4th day of April.† By letter of the 22nd day of April,‡ it was intimated to us by the Association that our letter of the 2nd day of April had been considered by the Committee, "that there is great difficulty in submitting definite evidence of specific cases "of abuse; the abuses chiefly complained of affecting native and not European suitors," and that "application was made throughout the various districts for information regarding specific "charges, and replies have been received from several districts asserting the existence of abuses "as a notorious fact, but intimating that evidence in support of specific cases is not easily "procurable." The Association added that "in view of a letter received from Mr. Sinclair ex-"pressing a wish for information as to the *nature* of the abuses, irrespective of specific cases, "efforts will be made to furnish such information of a *general* character from kanganies and "others, as may serve to show the nature of the abuses complained of." With this letter from the Association was forwarded a copy of a communication§ from Mr. Osborne, member of Committee for Madulsíma and Héwa Eliya, referring to certain alleged irregularities in the Fiscal's Department, into which we had no authority to enquire. By letter dated the 25th day of April,‖ the Association, forwarding a copy of a resolution passed by the Dikoya Planters' Association, stated "that if the request of the Dikoya [Association] is complied with, it is hoped that most important disclosures will result from the examination of coolies and kanganies resident in the district." The resolution was "that the Minor Courts Commission be asked to "hold one of their courts of enquiry in this district, and give as long notice as possible." Again, a letter dated the 12th day of May¶ was received from the Association, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Maskeliya Planters' Association stating "that this district will "in [the] event of the Commission coming to Dikoya send evidence to show the nature of the "abuses complained of." No further communication reached us from the Ceylon Planters' Association, nor did we from that body receive any information respecting the nature of the abuses which were alleged to be "notorious."

We may assume that the efforts which the Planters' Association proposed to make were not effectual, as the result would otherwise have been communicated to us. And, if we might refer to the proceedings of a general meeting of the Association held on the 28th day of June, and to the observations of the Chairman, it would appear that the Association had not, even at that date, been successful in their efforts, as the Chairman considered the question not quite ripe to be brought forward for discussion. We should have expected that these efforts would have preceded the grave

* Appendix A 1. † Appendix A 2. ‡ Appendix A 3. ‖ Appendix A 4.
§ Appendix A 5. ¶ Appendix A 6.

charges so publicly made and adopted at a public meeting. We must confess to a feeling of disappointment that we were obliged to enter upon our enquiry without definite information, though asked for.

Scope and Object of Commission.

4. We understood the scope and object of the Commission to be, not an enquiry into the truth or falsity of specified charges against individual officers of courts, but an investigation *firstly*, as to the existence of abuses generally, and *secondly*, as to the opportunities afforded for such abuses by the practice prevailing in the different courts,—the investigation to be so conducted as to lead to practical suggestions for the correction of abuses when found to exist, and, as far as possible, for provision against their recurrence.

Notification of Sittings.

5. To afford facilities to intending complainants, we resolved upon holding our enquiry at or near every Minor Court in the Western and Central Provinces; and by notices duly published in the newspapers, and by placards printed in English and in the vernacular languages, posted up in the court-house and in other conspicuous places in each town, we notified the time and place appointed for the enquiry, and requested all persons who had any complaints to make, or information to give in respect of the working of the Minor Courts to appear before us. In Appendix B. are shown the places at, and the dates on, which the enquiry was held.

Examination of Witnesses.

6. Irrespective of the complaints which might be voluntarily preferred before us, we deemed it desirable, in order to have a full and complete investigation, to summon, where available, for each sitting, some proctors practising before the Minor Court, the working of which was the subject of inquiry, and to request the magistrates and the subordinate officers of court to be in attendance. We examined all persons who voluntarily came before us, the witnesses cited at their instance, the proctors and, in many instances, the magistrates and the subordinate officers of court. At many sittings there were no witnesses in attendance save those whom we had summoned. We beg leave to append the minutes of evidence recorded by us.*

Character of Complaints.

7. The gist of the complaints, as stated by the parties who were examined before us, may be broadly said to be delays and obstructions placed in the way of suitors by the officers of court, at almost every stage of a suit or prosecution, for the purpose of obtaining a bribe. Specific charges of bribery were made against some court officers, and evidence adduced in support thereof. Although an investigation into such charges for the purpose of determining the guilt or innocence of the parties accused was, as we understood it, beyond the limits of our enquiry, yet we did not in any case exclude the testimony tendered, but considered the charges merely as illustrations or examples of a particular abuse. Obviously we could not determine the truth of such charges without a lengthened enquiry, and without giving the parties concerned the fullest opportunity of being heard in defence.

Direct Charges of Bribery.

8. We record it as our opinion that the direct evidence in support of the charges of bribery was not satisfactory; in some instances we were convinced that it was undoubtedly false. Notably was this the case on a complaint which came before us at Dikoya, where a grave charge of bribery and forgery was made against the chief clerk of the court. A letter purporting to be signed by one Kalimuttu Kangani and two coolies, giving their master, Mr. R. B. Arthur, of Kirkoswald estate, notice of their intention to quit service, was produced before us, and the kangani deposed that the letter was written in his presence by the chief clerk of the Dikoya Court, to whom he paid the sum of two rupees and fifty cents, that the two coolies were not present at the time, and that the clerk forged their signatures. The chief clerk denied that he wrote the letter. In the course of the enquiry it transpired that the letter was in the handwriting of one Appasamy, who, on being sent for and questioned by us, admitted that he wrote the letter, and we have no doubt that he did so. The charge as made against the chief clerk was, in our opinion, entirely without foundation.

We may refer to another instance, and this occurred at the Pussellâwa sitting. Sangan Kangani, of Peacock estate, charged the chief clerk of the court with having demanded and received from him one rupee to issue a warrant which had been ordered by Mr. Crow, the Unofficial Justice of the Peace. For the purpose of identification by this witness, we called in the chief clerk of the court and with him the peon of the Commission. The kangani pointed out the latter as the person who gave him the warrant and to whom he paid the money.

These cases are particularly referred to as illustrating the reckless manner in which charges were in some instances made.

Nature of Evidence received.

9. There is much in the recorded evidence of the witnesses examined which would not be deemed to be of any probative value in a purely judicial investigation. But having in view the scope of our enquiry, we admitted hearsay evidence and permitted witnesses to give their impressions, formed from information which they had received in the course of their business, and at a time when there could not have been any reason for giving false information.

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* Appendix C.

We refer particularly to the evidence given by practising proctors, who, though they may not themselves be eye-witnesses of misconduct on the part of court officers, might yet be reasonably certain of it from complaints made to them at the time by their clients.

Examination of Calendars and Process Registers.

10. During the progress of our enquiry we examined the "calendars" and "process registers" of some of the courts, and a certain number of the records of each court, for the purpose of ascertaining by evidence independent of witnesses, whether there was, as alleged, delay in the issue of process, and whether there was irregularity partaking of the character of an abuse at any other stage of a case.

Examination of Police "Detail Diary."

11. Dealing with the matter of warrants, and the possible abuse arising in connection therewith, we considered it necessary to examine the "detail diary" of some of the officers in charge of police stations, with the object of ascertaining the period during which persons apprehended upon warrants were detained in custody by the police, without being taken before a competent court or Justice of the Peace within the time prescribed by law.

Opinion of Commissioners on Evidence generally.

12. From the materials before us we consider that there is sufficient testimony to justify the conclusion at which we arrive, that abuses more or less do exist in certain courts, and that there is a probability of their existence in other courts.

Consideration of Specific Abuses.

13. Having expressed our views generally, we shall deal with the particular abuses which were alleged by the witnesses to exist in the working of the Minor Courts, or which were disclosed by the inspection of records, and shall *seriatim* state our opinions, and suggest measures which, we consider, would prevent the recurrence of such abuses.

ABUSE No. 1.

Obstruction to Suitors in taking down their Plaints.

This complaint, strictly speaking, can only refer to plaints before the Courts of Requests. By the rules of that court the duty is cast upon the chief clerk to take down the case of a suitor in the form of a plaint or answer, if he shall not deliver a pleading signed by himself or his proctor or advocate. Mere departmental supervision on the part of the Commissioner cannot under existing rules of this court prevent the delay complained of, as he can have no knowledge of any suit until the plaint is formally entered and forms a record of his court, nor can he be aware of the existence of a grievance in this respect unless a specific complaint be made to him.

The plaint before the Police Court is by law required to be taken down by the Magistrate, if not handed in by the suitor himself, and an information before the Justice of the Peace is received by that officer, so that in criminal matters, under the present procedure, no room can exist for this complaint. But this procedure will be superseded by the "Criminal Procedure Code, 1883," which will come into operation at the beginning of next year. According to the Code, the complaint may be made orally or in writing. If in writing, "it shall be signed by "the person making it." If made orally, "the substance of the complaint ..... shall be "entered by an officer of the court on a separate sheet of paper, to be kept in the Police Court, and "the person making the complaint ..... shall sign the entry so made." This latter provision we take it, is only directory, and the Magistrate may by rule be required, as at present, when complaints are made orally, to record them himself.

In considering this matter, we may state it as our opinion that no satisfactory evidence was produced before us on this point, and we shall therefore treat this complaint rather as indicating a probable, than as establishing a proved abuse, and shall now deal with it in connexion with the more important question relating to the reception of plaints and other pleadings generally, with the object of suggesting a remedy.

According to the rules of both the Police Court and the Court of Requests, a suitor is entitled to submit a written plaint if signed by himself; and in matters cognizable by the Police Magistrate, the plaint must be submitted to him for order to be made thereon, and in Court of Requests cases the chief clerk is bound to accept the tendered written plaint and issue process thereon. These plaints, so submitted, which we might term "outside" plaints, as distinguished from those taken down by the court or its officer, are mostly written by petition-drawers.

In some courts the judge refuses as a rule to accept such plaints, and in other courts encouragement is given to the filing of plaints drawn by petition-drawers.

Without stopping to enquire whether either course can be justified by the present rules, the object is equally commendable:—the one being to prevent the suitor from being put to expense by ignorant and designing men, and the other to prevent any contact between the suitor and the officers of court, and thus to remove an opportunity for corruption. In the consideration of this alleged abuse, it is but fair to the officers of court to record that it has been stated, we think in some instances truly, that in many courts the current work was so heavy as necessarily to involve delay in the taking down of plaints.

Remedy.

Contact of officers with suitors should as much as possible be avoided, and court business should invariably be transacted in open court.

We suggest that no clerk or other officer of court should take down any plaints or pleas, and that facilities should be afforded to suitors to submit written pleadings.

In the Police Court, as we have already observed, there need not be any difficulty in carrying out this suggestion even under the new Code, as the Magistrate might, as at present, be called upon by rule to take down the plaints, when written plaints are not presented by the suitor. Written plaints, we recommend, should not be accepted unless written and signed by the party himself, or signed by the party and countersigned by a proctor or a licensed "pleading drawer." There need not be any alteration of substantive legislation on this subject, as we consider that by rule of the Supreme Court, under section 508 of the "Criminal Procedure Code, 1883," effect may be given to our recommendation.

As regards the Court of Requests, to carry out our suggestion, an amendment of existing rules will be necessary. We recommend that rule 1 section 1 in schedule A., of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1859, be amended thus :—

"Any person desirous of bringing an action in a Court of Requests shall either deliver to the chief "clerk of such court a plaint (1) written and signed by himself, or (2) signed by himself and countersigned "by a person licensed by the court to draw pleadings, or (3) signed by his proctor or advocate, or he shall "state his case to the Commissioner who, when he is satisfied that the suitor is unable to bear the expense "of a written plaint, or if he sees other ground for so doing, shall himself enter the same by way of plaint, "and such plaint shall be signed by such person."

Rule 11, section 3, of the Ordinance No. 9 of 1859 will also need amendment in manner following :—

"But if the defendant shall deny such claim, he shall either deliver to the chief clerk an answer (1) "written and signed by himself, or (2) signed by himself and countersigned by a person licensed by the "court to draw pleadings, or (3) signed by his proctor or advocate, or he shall state his case to the Com- "missioner, who, when he is satisfied that the suitor is unable to bear the expense of a written answer, or "if he sees other ground for so doing, shall himself enter the same by way of answer, and such answer "shall be signed by such person."

The amendments suggested would bring under the immediate control of the judge the initiatory proceedings which at present, as regards the Court of Requests, are in the hands of the chief clerk, and thus remove any probable ground for abuse.

Referring to "outside" plaints and other pleadings, the objection by some judges to their reception appears to us to be well-founded. They consider them to be ill-drawn and unintelligible, to contain inaccurate statements, and in other respects to be so defective, particularly in the Court of Requests, as to entail unnecessary expense upon the suitor. We feel the force of this objection. As a rule, men of inferior or no education and of low morals resort to petition-drawing as a means of livelihood, and with the keen competition among them, it is not to be wondered at that much of the false litigation in the country is ascribed to the questionable assistance which they give to the ignorant suitor. A great deal of the mischief done by these men is due to the fact that they are not responsible to the court for the plaints and pleas which they draw.

The injury wrought was felt to be so great that in the year 1874 some petition-drawers were, under the Vagrants' Ordinance, prosecuted and convicted before the police court at Kandy.*

The evidence in that case disclosed that these men "were in the habit of taking money "from suitors under the false pretence of assisting them in their cases" and "of instituting false "cases and by that means extorting money." The conviction was not sustained by the Appellate Court, as the case did not come under the provisions of the Ordinance, but the learned Judge before whom the appeal was heard remarked, in his judgment, "that courts should be infested "with persons of this kind is no doubt a great evil." With increase of years the evil, as our own experience attests, has not by any means diminished, and what was true of the petition-drawer then is true at the present day.

However great the evil may be, it appears to be the general rule that suitors who have any complaints to make in the courts, receive the aid of the petition-drawer in the first instance, and they have now familiarized themselves with a system in which the petition-drawer plays an important part.

We think that good service might be done by a judicious modification of the present system, which permits any one, however unscrupulous, to act the *rôle* of guide and counsellor to the village litigant, and to undertake the duties of "pleading-drawing."

We propose that, according to the requirments of each court, a certain number of persons, not exceeding four, to be described as "pleading-drawers," be licensed by the judge to draw plaints and pleadings, and that no plaint or plea be accepted by the court unless drawn in conformity with the rules which we have already suggested. In restricting the maximum number of licensed persons to four, we consider that efficiency would be best secured by this limitation. It is to be hoped that the person so licensed would be examined by the judge as to his competency, and that no license would issue unless such person is a man in whom the judge can place confidence.

These licensed persons should be under the control and supervision of the court, and their license subject to be withdrawn by the judge for misconduct, incompetency, negligence, or otherwise.

There being at present no rule on the subject, a "petition-drawer" may make any charge he likes for drawing a plaint or other pleading; but we recommend that a charge varying from twenty-five cents to fifty cents be legalized, and that such charge be, in the Court of Requests,

* No. 99,202, Police Court of Kandy.

allowed on taxation of costs to the successful party. This would necessitate a slight addition to the Table of Costs (Q.) appended to the Ordinance No. 9 of 1859. We recommend the following addition :—

"IV.—Pleading Drawers' Fees.

	Rs.	cts.
"In all cases not exceeding Rs. 50 ...	0	25
" Do. above Rs. 50	0	50"

For drawing up complaints before the Police Court, a uniform rate of twenty-five cents may be allowed.

Any charge made or amount recovered by a pleading-drawer, in excess of the above scale of fees, should involve the withdrawal of his license. An endorsement to this effect should be made on the license issued.

Abuse No. 2.

Suitors prevented from having access to the Magistrate in presenting Plaints and Affidavits.

The complaints which appear to us to have been well supported were those made by the witnesses examined in Kandy. According to their evidence the peons receive or "collect" the plaints from suitors before the arrival of the Magistrate, and the "collection" is accompanied with the imposition of a duty varying from five to twelve cents. The architectural arrangements of the Kandy Police Court, where the Magistrate sits in his chambers upstairs to receive plaints and make his order thereon, and where none can apparently approach him without the intervention of a court peon, may furnish good reason for this complaint, though it appears from the evidence of the Magistrate himself that suitors sometimes did go directly to him.

The evidence in Colombo was equally strong to sustain this complaint. We have it from the Magistrate himself that he observed a peon refuse a plaint, and that he had to prohibit the peons from receiving plaints and to introduce a system by which the plaints were deposited by the suitors in a box kept for the purpose.

Where the Magistrate does not attend court, as at Nuwara Eliya, except to hear cases which are ready for trial, an equally favourable opportunity is afforded to court peons, and court officers generally, who receive and collect plaints, to obtain a bribe, and upon the evidence before us we think that this opportunity has been largely availed of to the detriment of the suitor.

In courts where the Magistrate entertains complaints in open court, and where any obstruction to suitors could be within sight, there appears to be less cause for dissatisfaction.

By the Ordinance No. 18 of 1871, the Police Magistrate is required to set apart a portion of each working day for the reception and consideration of plaints. But the practice in this respect does not appear to be uniform. In some courts the plaints are taken up before the business of the day commences, in others after adjournment for lunch ; in the Colombo court, a box is kept for the reception of plaints as before stated ; and in some courts the rule is entirely disregarded.

There is no similar rule setting apart an hour for the reception of plaints in the Court of Requests.

Remedy.

We recommend that a time should be fixed for the receiving of complaints both in the Police Court and the Court of Requests. The Ordinance of 1871 stands repealed by the "Ceylon Penal Code," but the existing rule should, we consider, be enforced in practice. This work, we recommend, should be attended to as soon as the court sits, as the officers would than have sufficient time to attend to the issue of process upon the order being made. The reception of plaints should as far as practicable be in open court, and not in chambers.

Upon any special application being made to the Magistrate or Commissioner, he may, at his discretion, entertain the plaint at any other hour.

The temporary inconvenience which any one party might be put to, if he be not present at the hour appointed, would be amply compensated for by the systematic manner in which the business of the court would be conducted. When suitors are made aware that an hour is fixed for any particular part of the court work, they will soon learn to conform to the rule, which in its practical working would be of great advantage to the public generally.

Abuse No. 3.

Giving advantage to suitors in fixing date at different stages of a Suit or Prosecution.

We have had no very clear evidence upon this point, and much less that any court officer did actually receive any remuneration for this alleged advantage. But a suggestion has been made that the clerk, whose duty it is to fix the returnable date of summons in a civil suit and the trials of prosecutions and suits in the Police Court and Court of Requests, might, on receiving, as it has been significantly termed, some "satisfaction" from a suitor, give him some advantage either by fixing an early or a prolonged date.

In Police Court cases under existing rules, it is the duty of the chief clerk, on a plaint being entered, to appoint a day for the appearance of the defendant. Under the Criminal Procedure Code the Magistrate is required "to appoint a time for the enquiry to begin," and if the party charged be not in custody, to issue a summons for his appearance or a warrant for his apprehension, so that upon the introduction of the Code no room will exist for any complaint under this head.

In civil cases, by the Rules of Court the chief clerk is empowered to fix a date for the appearance of the defendant and for the trial of the cause.

Remedy.

We see no reason to suggest an amendment of the existing rule on this subject, as the information we have obtained from a number of court records, which we have received from each court and which we have examined, satisfies us that the rule has worked well, and that taking the working of the courts as a whole, there is no cause for complaint. The chief clerk might as hitherto fix the returnable day of summons and the dates for trial, but to guard against the possibility of any abuse, we recommend that a register should be kept in the Court of Requests of the cases instituted, showing the number of a case, the date of institution, the date for which the summons is made returnable, and the date of trial, and of the adjournments thereof. This register should be examined occasionally by the Commissioner.

ABUSE No. 4.

Delay in the Issue and Service of Process.

It was complained that parties applying for either summons or warrant were unnecessarily detained or delayed by the officers of court, the motive for the detention or delay being the extortion of money. In cooly desertion cases, particularly in the courts up-country, where warrants were applied for, the complaints were the strongest. While we are prepared to accept the statement that, as the Magistrates have, under the Rules of Court, to sign the warrants, there must necessarily be some delay in their issue, we are inclined to believe that payments have voluntarily been made by suitors, in the hope, often delusive, of getting their work expedited. We do not believe that such large sums as were mentioned by a witness at Nuwara Eliya were paid. It was stated to us—and we believe the statement—that the kanganies, who are usually the complainants in cooly-desertion cases, obtained advances from their employers, the superintendents of the estates, for the declared purpose of giving the money as bribes to court officers; but we think it highly probable that the greater part of the advances so obtained were by the kanganies applied to other purposes. If an employer of labour was informed by his servant that the court officers exacted or expected bribes, it is matter for surprise that he did not promptly communicate with the Police Magistrate, instead of giving encouragement to what, he must have known, was a gross impropriety. We consider that in the regular business of the court, the warrant would have issued, whether any payment had been made or not. As a matter of fact, there has not been delay in the issue of process, as the examination by us of records shewed that, taking a fair average of cases, the summons or warrant was issued on the day on which the case was instituted, or perhaps on the following day.

The warrants for the apprehension of coolies are generally entrusted to the parties-complainant who, with the aid of the police, have such warrants executed. It has been asserted that the police have demanded money to execute warrants, but upon this point we express no opinion, as it is a question beyond the limits of our enquiry.

According to the practice which prevails in some courts, processes as a rule are in criminal cases served through the Fiscal, and in others through the revenue headmen. When processes are to be served or executed by the Fiscal, there can be no ground for complaint that the suitors are detained, as the processes are sent direct from the court to the Fiscal; but there may be delay in the transmission of the processes, so that the Fiscal may not be able to serve or execute them against the dates for which they are returnable.

Complaints are rife as to the very unsatisfactory service of process through the Fiscal, and the evidence shows a decided preference by some of the Magistrates for a service through the agency of the revenue headmen, as being more effectual, though it is open to the objection that suitors are liable to be detained until the processes are ready to be given to them to be taken to the headmen.

Remedy.

The simple means by which promptitude in the issue of process might be ensured is by the exercise of supervision on the part of the Judge. If a process be returned unserved or unexecuted, the Judge should enquire into the cause of it, and ascertain whether there has been any delay in the issue of the process from the court.

We are divided in opinion as to the best means of effecting service of criminal process: some of us consider that it might be more advantageously done through the agency of revenue headmen, and others that the system is impracticable. As this is a large administrative question, we are agreed that we have not sufficient materials before us upon which we can form any decided opinion.

ABUSE No. 5.

Indiscriminate Issue of Warrants.

This was not made a specific ground of complaint, but an examination of some of the court records disclosed a scandalous abuse in the granting of warrants, particularly in that class of cases known as "cooly desertion" cases.

In many instances warrants appear to us not to have been allowed with that care, or issued with the adoption of those safeguards which are necessary to prevent the process of the court from

being abused. As we understand the evidence before us, the proceeding taken upon the application for a warrant, was that the complainant presented his plaint, at the foot of which was added what purported to be an affidavit from the complainant, (usually a kangani to whose gang the accused were alleged to belong,) that the attendance of the accused could not be secured by ordinary summons. In some instances the Magistrate, before allowing a warrant, insisted upon a letter from the superintendent of the estate whence the men deserted, authorizing the kangani to prefer the charge. We may at once say that these were not materials upon which any warrant should have issued. The "Administration of Justice Ordinance, 1868," permits of the issue of "warrants in cases triable by the Police Courts, where the Magistrate shall at any time previous "to the day appointed for hearing a complaint be satisfied by the oath or affidavit of the complain-"ant or of any other person, that there is probable cause for believing that the defendant is about "to leave the jurisdiction of the court, or is concealing himself with the view of evading the "process of the said court." It is plain that the affidavit, upon which the Magistrate and the unofficial Justices appear to have proceeded, does not meet the requirements of the law.

The warrants, when issued, were in numbers of cases not returned, and no efforts were apparently made to secure their return. According to the evidence, some of them yet remain in the hands of the complainants though months, if not years, have elapsed since their issue. This remark applies as well as to the warrants issued by the Police Magistrates as to those issued by the unofficial Justices.

These warrants are in many cases, we think, made use of simply to strengthen the labour roll of the kangani, or for other purposes equally improper. As an instance in point, the case mentioned by the Magistrate at Nuwara Eliya may be referred to. In that case a woman was arrested as a deserter, but it transpired in the course of the enquiry that she had never served on the estate from which she was alleged to have deserted, but that the "kangani wanted her to "marry his son," and had her apprehended upon the warrant. In many cases we have reason to believe that the warrants are held as a general authority to arrest.

When coolies are arrested in the execution of warrants issued by the unofficial Justices, they are not, as a rule, produced before the Police Court or before the Justice of the Peace, as they ought to be, but they are taken to the estate whence the accused were said to have deserted.

The Labour Ordinance, No. 11 of 1865, authorizes a Court or Justice of the Peace before whom a labourer is brought up on warrant, with the consent of such labourer, to "direct him to return to the service of his employer;" but the Court or Justice is then required to keep a record of the proceedings, and to certify in the record that he has satisfied himself that the servant has of his own free will consented to return to the service of his employer. In the Magistrates' records which we have seen, we never found such a certificate, and we are not aware whether any record was kept of proceedings by any unofficial Justice. It would be interesting if a return were called for from the unofficial Justices showing the number of warrants issued in cooly desertion cases, the returns to the warrants, the number of persons apprehended, the number of persons brought before them upon such warrants, and the results of the charges.

We have reason to believe, and a case came within our notice at Nuwara Eliya, that persons arrested upon warrants as "deserters" had not in fact served on the estate from which they were alleged to have deserted, and yet their consent to go with the complainant to his estate was recorded by the chief clerk.

This entry does not appear to have been corruptly made, but it is clear that the coolies at first expressed their willingness to go with the complainant, but when they became aware that the gentleman in whose service they actually were at the time of the arrest, had interposed on their behalf and written to the Magistrate, they withdrew their consent and elected to go to trial.

These warrants so obtained may be made to apply to any Tamil cooly whom the complainant may choose to have arrested, and there is no guarantee that the person arrested is the person against whom the warrant issued. In a case at Matalé certain persons were arrested upon a desertion warrant, and though they denied that "they bore the names mentioned in the warrant" they said "we will go with the kangani" (that is the complainant), and they did go.

It is manifest that coolies when arrested upon a warrant, whether they were deserters or not, elected to go with the kangani, simply because they believed that if they did not take that alternative they would be sent to prison.

In Pussellâwa, during the absence of the Magistrate, an unofficial Justice of the Peace, without any authority, exercised some of the functions of the Police Magistrate, and the evidence at Dikova disclosed that an unofficial Justice had acted in a similarly unauthorized manner and issued warrants in petty cases cognizable by the Police Court.

While recognizing the energy and zeal characterising some of the unofficial Justices in devoting so much of their time to the public good, we must record our conviction that one of the greatest abuses connected with the working of the minor criminal courts was that arising out of the indiscriminate issue of warrants.

Remedy.

It is hardly necessary to indicate a remedy in the case of the issue of warrants by the unofficial Justices as, with the introduction of the "Criminal Procedure Code, 1883," their jurisdiction will cease.

The Police Magistrates should be enjoined to use the greatest care in the issue of warrants generally. We recommend that a register be kept of warrants issued, and it should be the duty of the Magistrate to see that they are returned to him within the returnable time, if any; and where coolies are arrested, in no case should they be allowed, even with their consent, to go to the estate whence they are alleged to have deserted, unless the superintendent or some other responsible person identifies the cooly arrested as having served on that estate.

Abuse No. 6.

Detention of Parties required to give Bail.

The complaint is that persons ordered by a Magistrate or a Justice of the Peace to give bail are detained by the court officer, and that difficulties are thrown in the way of such persons for the purpose of extorting money. It is highly probable, and we are strongly inclined to believe, that there is ground for this complaint in some courts, and it is certain that it may easily exist where the Magistrate does not personally supervise so important a branch of his duty as that relating to bail The execution of a bail bond is, we fear, looked upon by some Magistrates as a mere matter of form, and the details connected with its execution appear to be, in some courts, entirely in the hands of clerks, who may admit or reject the bail offered, except perhaps where the bail is certified. The mischief is greatest where, as in the itinerating courts, the chief clerk assumes the functions of the Justice of the Peace, or Magistrate, and determines upon the sufficiency of the bail, and is able, in the absence of what he deems bail, to relegate the accused parties to the custody of the police. Where the system offers such strong temptation to abuse, it may be tolerably certain that the temptation has not, in all cases, been resisted.

The evidence before us establishes that in some cases the bail bonds are in point of fact executed before the chief clerk or the Justice of the Peace clerk, and that the Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, who professes to attest them, does not see the persons who are parties to the bonds. The course in Dikoya was, when bail was taken during the absence of the Justice of the Peace or Magistrate at Dimbula, to send the bail bonds actually executed before the chief clerk for the signature of the Justice of the Peace, who signed and returned them. It is hardly necessary to say that such a bail bond is not of the least practical value.

In connexion with this complaint, we shall consider the question of Bail generally, including what has been suggested as a grievance, namely the matter of "professional bailsmen:" that is, that there are a number of hangers-on about the courts, who are accepted by the court officers as bail without any demur; and the suggestion is that they do so for a consideration, while the bailsman himself drives a lucrative trade.

There are three classes of bail, namely (1) personal bail, (2) bail with sureties not certified, and (3) certified bail—that is to say, bail the worth of which is certified by a headman.

The system in regard to bail does not appear to be uniform. In some courts "certified" bail is insisted upon; in others, when "bail" is ordered, the clerk exercises his discretion as to the amount and sufficiency of bail; and the impression which we have formed of the evidence generally is, that much of the bail work is entrusted to the subordinate officers of court, and that parties accused ordered to find bail, are only able to get their bonds accepted by a money payment. We have carefully inspected some of the Justice of the Peace records, and have examined the bail bonds said to have been executed by the professional bailsmen, and we found the requisite certificate attached. We do not think that the complaint about professional bailsmen has been well sustained.

Remedy.

When bail is really intended, substantial bail should be insisted on, and the worth of the bailsman should be verified either by his own affidavit, if the Magistrate be satisfied therewith, or by a headman's certificate. No discretion should be left with the clerk in the matter of the sufficiency, acceptance, or rejection of bail. We fear that there is too much of laxity in the conduct of court business, and that matters, which ought properly to be looked into by the Magistrate himself, are committed to persons who should not have the authority to deal with them.

If a certificate be produced, the Magistrate might, if he thinks it necessary, enquire into the matter and make order thereon, whether the bail should be accepted or not. Whenever a certificate or an affidavit is produced of the worth of the surety, the certificate or affidavit should be filed with the bail bond.

We consider that bail, if it involves the production of a certificate, should not be demanded in trumpery cases, as has been done, for Rs. 5 and Rs. 10, for instances might occur in which the party accused would, perhaps, be mulcted by way of certificate fee in a sum quite disproportionate to the amount of bail required.

A time should be set apart, as is the case in some courts, for the execution of bail bonds.

We think that they should be all signed at the close of the ordinary day's work.

That "gratifications" are received for early attention, is the basis of complaint, and by following the rule we have suggested this ground would be removed.

Complaints have been made that headmen charge sums varying from five rupees to ten rupees for every certificate of bail.

If this be true, we consider it to be an excessive charge. Headmen are not compelled, any more than any other persons, to trouble themselves about the worth of intended sureties and to give them certificates. Enquiry will necessarily cost labour, and we, on principle, think that there is no objection to headmen receiving a fee for their certificates. But we think that this fee should be placed within reasonable and fair limits, and that the headmen be authorized to receive fees of from one to two rupees, having regard to the distance which they might have to travel. No legislation is, we consider, needed to sanction this fee. It might be done by a rule.

Abuse No. 7.

Undue Detention of Persons arrested by Police Officers.

There was no complaint made to us in this respect, but an examination of the "Detail Diary" kept by officers in charge of police stations disclosed that persons who had been arrested

upon warrants were detained in the stations for periods longer than those authorized by law. This occurred chiefly in districts where itinerating courts were held. The impropriety may be ascribed to error of judgment, or perhaps to police administration not permitting an officer to leave his station without special authority, rather than to any corrupt motive on the part of the police officers. According to the statements of the chief clerk of the Police Court at Náwalapitiya—and we may take his evidence as typical of what was done in like cases in other itinerating courts—if a party arrested by the police under warrant was brought to the court in the absence of the Magistrate, the chief clerk issued a "slip" directed to the police constable, "ordering the man's detention" until the arrival, in due course, of the Magistrate; and this "slip" was supposed to do duty for a remand, and upon its authority the party arrested was detained in custody. This course, we desire to point out, is as objectionable as it is illegal, in that it affords room for abuse, and involves an exercise of authority with which a clerk is not vested. According to the Administration of Justice Ordinance, any person apprehended upon a warrant should, within twenty-four hours after arrest, be taken before the nearest Police Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with by him, and subordinate police officers in charge of stations ought to be made to know that any remand, except by a competent judicial officer, would not justify the detention of a party arrested.

In connection with this matter, we may observe, though perhaps it does not strictly relate to the working of Minor Courts, that we discovered from the "Detail Diary" that, in districts where there are no resident Magistrates, persons have been arrested by the police without warrants, and detained for some days upon petty charges awaiting the arrival of the Magistrate. We may here draw particular attention to the statements made by the police sergeant* at Balangoda as showing usurpation of authority in the matter of bail and unlawful detention of parties accused. Such detention necessarily entails a considerable amount of hardship, but we do not think it necessary to refer to it further, except to point out that under the Code it will be the duty of police officers who are in charge of stations to report to the Police Court the cases of all persons arrested without warrants, and of persons who have been admitted to bail. The practical working of this provision would enable Police Courts to remedy any evil which may hereafter arise in this respect.

Remedy.

We suggest that Police Magistrates and Justices of the Peace who issue warrants (a register of which we have already recommended should be kept), should take care that the warrants are returned immediately after their execution. If it should appear from the returns to the warrants that the men had been needlessly detained before being brought up before the Justice, an enquiry should be instituted, and if the arresting officer be found to be in fault, he should be reported against to the proper authorities. By this means the proper enforcement of the law under Departmental supervision would be secured, and no ground for complaint would exist.

ABUSE No. 8.

Clerks (a) receiving money from Suitors for Stamps for Pleadings and Processes, and misappropriating it, and (b) receiving Stamps for Processes and not issuing them, and (c) Clerks vending Stamps.

(*a*) Complaints have been made that officers of court misappropriate money received from suitors for the purchase of stamps necessary for pleadings and processes, and that processes were not in some instances issued, though stamps had been supplied. We are not satisfied that there has been any such misappropriation as alleged, except in the case of a chief clerk in Kandy who is now dismissed. However, we think it highly improper that any officer of court should, under any pretence whatever, receive money in lieu of stamps.

(*b*) A party in default in getting process issued might easily make a charge against court officers of misappropriation of stamps, for the purpose of supporting an application for a postponement of his case, and we have it in evidence that such charges were made in one or two instances, and that upon enquiry by the Commissioner they were found to be untrue. Under the present system—and we can suggest no better—stamps for processes will, in the Court of Requests, necessarily have to be supplied for summons, subpœnas and writs, which issue on printed forms from the court, and to which stamps have to be affixed, and in like manner stamps for processes will have to be supplied in criminal cases.

(*c*) It is, we consider, objectionable that any court officer should be allowed to vend stamps to suitors.

Remedy.

(*a*) By Departmental rule court officers should be strictly prohibited from receiving any money from suitors for the purchase of or for providing stamps.

(*b*) If any party be aggrieved by misuse of stamps, his only remedy is to prefer a prompt complaint to the Judge, and have the same inquired into.

(*c*) We see the practical difficulty of obliging any person unconnected with the court to vend stamps, particularly in places where there is not much litigation, as a stamp vendor cannot, as we understand, get from the Kachchéri supplies of stamps for less than Rs. 200 at a time. But this difficulty might, we think, be met by the Magistrate being provided with a supply of the necessary stamps from the Kachchéri, and issuing them to a vendor to the value of Rs. 10 and

* Evidence taken by Commission not published

upwards at a time. This would obviate the necessity of a stamp vendor having a large capital invested in stamps, which we believe to be the reason why there are no stamp vendors in some of the outlying districts.

ABUSE No. 9.

Difficulties attendant upon cashing of Orders of Payment for amounts levied under Writs.

Well-founded complaints have been made that suitors who recover the amount of their judgments are obliged to travel long distances to obtain payment of Court "orders" for the amount of levies in execution, the money being in deposit in the Kachchéri.

It was submitted to us that suitors in the court of Avisáwélla who recover judgment have sometimes to travel sixty miles from their residence to Colombo, and it was stated to us that suitors refrained from drawing their money, rather than put themselves to the expense of travelling to Colombo at a cost of perhaps more than the money which they would receive. This is a grievance equally applicable to other courts situated at great distance from the Kachchéries.

When moneys are levied in execution, they are deposited by the Fiscal in the Kachchéri to the credit of the suit in which the writ issued, and a return is made accordingly. Application is thereupon made to the court by the judgment-creditor for an order of payment for the amount in deposit. The order when allowed by the court is made payable to the judgment-creditor himself, if he has not authorized a Proctor to receive it for him. The ground for complaint is that by a rule enforced at the Kachchéri, the amount will not be paid to any one except to the judgment-creditor himself, and upon his personally presenting the order The reason for this rule, we believe, was that payment by some mistake, in a case which occurred not long ago, was made to a person not entitled to receive the amount of the order, and that the Government Agent was afterwards called upon, by judgment recovered in court, to pay the amount to the right person.

Remedy.

Although we consider that the rule may be insisted on in cases of orders of payment issued from the District Court, we think that it might be relaxed in the case of orders issued from the Minor Courts, or at all events in respect of orders issued for sums under Rs. 50 from courts situated in places at long distances from the Kachchéri where the money is deposited.

ABUSE No. 10.

Record-keepers taking a Fee for searching for old Records.

We believe that there is ground for this complaint: the opportunity for accepting money being afforded by the facilities which suitors have of getting access to the record-room.

Remedy.

Any party desirous of obtaining copy of an old, or (to speak more correctly) of a missing record, ought to submit his application to the Judge, who may direct search to be made and copy to be issued.

The Record-keeper should be strictly enjoined not to receive any remuneration for the search for any record.

Dealing with the custody of records generally, we suggest that the greatest care should be taken in the arrangement and preservation of them, so that there need not be any difficulty in getting at a record at any time if it be required. For the inspection of records there ought to be, where practicable, a reference-room to which Proctors and their registered clerks would have access. But where this cannot be done, a portion of the record-room should be railed off and devoted to the use of parties having the inspection or making copies of records.

Rules to the following effect, regarding the custody and issue of records, might with advantage be enforced:—

1. That any person (other than a Proctor or his registered clerk) desirous of obtaining copy of any record of the court shall apply for the same to the Judge, who shall, in his discretion, make an order for the issue thereof, on payment to the court of a fee of 25 cents for every folio of 120 words or for any part of such folio

2. That no fee shall be paid by the applicant to the record-keeper or any other officer of court for a copy of a record, nor shall any fee be paid to such record-keeper or other officer for searching for any record.

3. That no person (other than the Judge, the chief clerk of the court, and the record-keeper) shall have access to the record-room.

4. That no person (other than a Proctor or his registered clerk) shall be allowed to inspect, or to use for the purpose of making a copy thereof, any record, save under the express authority of the Judge.

5. That any Proctor or his registered clerk wishing to have the inspection of any record, or its use for the purpose of making a copy thereof, shall apply for the same at the railing separating the reference-room from the record-room.

6. That upon any record being issued to a Proctor or his registered clerk as aforesaid, a receipt shall be taken by the record-keeper for the record so issued, and the receipt shall, upon the return of the record, be given back to the said Proctor or his registered clerk, as the case may be.

7. That the records shall be returned on the same day as that on which they are issued, and shall not be removed from the reference-room except with the express authority of the Judge, nor shall the records issued be transferred from the party receiving the same to any other party.

Abuse No. 11.

Delay in the Hearing of Cases.

By a letter from the Inspector-General of Police,* our attention was drawn to the frequent postponement of cases in the Minor Courts, and to the evils attendant thereon. We are agreed that it is of the utmost importance, in courts of summary jurisdiction, that promptitude should prevail in the disposal of cases. Prolonged litigation is undoubtedly a source of endless mischief. As we have no specific complaints from suitors of delay in the trial of cases, we sent for and examined a number of records of some of the Police Courts, Courts of Requests, and Justices of the Peace. The result of our examination is shown in the returns appended.†

From an abstract‡ of the Police Court returns, it will be seen that in the eleven Police Courts specified therein—all of which were up-country courts except Negombo—the per-centage of cases disposed of on the first date was nearly 58; after one postponement 21, after two postponements 10, after three postponements 6; and the per-centage of the cases further postponed was only 2. The further postponements were in some cases attributable to the non-appearance of the defendant, upon whom the process had not been served, and in others to want of time.

We append a similar abstract§ of returns of Courts of Requests cases, which shows a per-centage of 71 cases disposed of on the first date; nearly 19 after one postponement, 7 after two postponements, the rest of the cases, showing a per-centage of only 3, were postponed oftener.

An abstract‖ of the returns of Justice of the Peace cases shows that nearly 45 per cent. were disposed of on the first date, 24 on the second date, 11 on the third, and the rest, representing a per-centage of 16, were determined after a larger number of postponements. Considering the nature of the proceedings before Justices of the Peace, frequent adjournments are sometimes unavoidable, as cases are often kept open for want of sufficient evidence.

There appear to be some cases pending for over six months in particularly the Police Courts and the Courts of Requests of Ratnapura, Rakwána, Negombo, Badulla, and Maturata. There may be exceptional circumstances, of which we are not aware, accounting for the long pendency of these cases. An abstract hereto appended¶ shows the number of cases which in the month of July last had been pending for periods longer than three months.

We also append an abstract** of returns which, at our request, were sent in from the itinerating courts, showing the number of cases decided in those courts during the year 1883, and the numbers pending on the 1st of January and on the 31st of December, 1883. This abstract shows that the itinerating courts have kept pace with the current work, except in Dikoya, and have worked well so far as the disposal of cases is concerned.

Taking the above cases dealt with by us as showing, on an average, how the work of the Minor Courts was done, we consider that, on the whole, there has not been much delay in the working of the courts as regards the disposal of cases.

Remedy.

The Judges should insist upon the prompt hearing of cases, and as a rule no postponement should be allowed, except upon very good cause shown. Parties and witnesses should not be subjected to the inconvenience of having to attend time after time at great expense to themselves. Every effort ought to be made by the Judge as to regulate the business of the court, that no more cases should be fixed than it is possible for the court to go through.

We think that by a judicious arrangement of the work, much of the mischief which a postponement brings in its train might be avoided.

Abuse No. 12.

Bribery and Extortion generally.

We have to some extent dealt with this complaint in considering the specific abuses alleged.

Though the direct evidence in proof of specific charges of bribery was not satisfactory, yet we are strongly inclined to believe from the general evidence which we received and from the circumstances disclosed, that in some courts officers did receive some money, perhaps a few cents, voluntarily given to them in the expectation of having work expedited; and that in some courts money was actually demanded and taken for doing the work required.

Ignorant suitors will not see the impropriety of purchasing some advantage by the payment of a small sum, more particularly if, as in some instances, they receive encouragement from those whose plain duty it is to correct abuses in the Administration of Justice. If a suitor be recommended by his adviser "to give a *santosum*" (gratification), to enable him to go to his village soon, or if he be told to follow some "sinister way" to get at information which he otherwise would not have had, it is not matter for surprise that he acts upon such advice.

Room is doubtless afforded for corruption by the delay, short though it be, which takes place in the different stages of a case.

Remedy.

If the root of the mischief be attacked, we think there will be less opportunity for corruption.

If steps be taken by the Judges to ensure prompt attention to current work, much of the evil complained of would be averted.

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* Appendix D. † Appendix E. (not printed). ‡ Appendix E 1. § Appendix E 2.
‖ Appendix E 3. ¶ Appendix F. ** Appendix G.

Suitors, as well as the officers of the court, should be enjoined against the offering and accepting of any remuneration or fee, and rules should be posted up in some conspicuous part of the court-house against the exaction of a fee, and suitors should be informed that the offer of a bribe would be attended with penal consequences.

ABUSE No. 13.

Abuses generally, connected with the Itinerating Courts.

There are a few Minor Courts in districts where there is no resident Magistrate, and where the Magistrate holds periodical sittings, generally for some days in one week of the month. These courts are referred to in this report as "itinerating courts," and are of two classes, one with a staff of officers attached, as at Náwalapitiya, Pusselláwa, Maturata, Balangoda, Urugala, Dikoya and Pasyála, and (2) where the Magistrate of the chief court travels with his staff of officers to the court, as at Moratuwa and Rakwána.

The itinerating courts of the former class are, in our opinion, productive of much harm, and the greatest abuses and irregularities which were disclosed before us were in connection therewith.

Whenever the Magistrate travels to the itinerating court, the chief court is left in the same position as the itinerating courts had been in for weeks previously. When the clerk in charge of a Minor Court, in the absence of the Magistrate, wrongfully assumes the Magistrate's functions, issues processes on his own responsibility, writes out and entertains plaints, and sends them by post to the Magistrate, (who, without seeing the parties, makes an order on their complaints,) accepts or rejects bail, determines the sufficiency of security, remands prisoners on "slips" of paper,—the widest door to temptation is open, and it is not to be wondered at if the suitors, under such circumstances, had to submit to hardships. The evidence taken at Náwalapitiya, Pusselláwa, Dikoya, Ratnapura, and Pasyála, indicates the evils of such a system, and the amount of mischief to which its practical working leads. The chief clerk of the Dikoya court, as he acknowledged, had the whole business of the court under his control, and fixed civil cases for days when the Commissioner was not expected to sit, and made orders in the cases, and entered up judgment in default cases.

Parties arrested upon warrants appear to have been marched from one station to another, and the most anomalous instances are those recorded in Náwalapitiya, where persons arrested upon a Justice of the Peace warrant were sometimes taken to Gampola, where the Magistrate is resident, and were not produced before him, but were detained in the Gampola station or prison, as the case may be, to be produced before the Magistrate, until it was his turn to go to Náwalapitiya.

At Maturata the itinerating system involved the issue of additional process in the form of a notice to the complainant of the day of hearing, with its additional chance of delay and disappointment, and in that court we had the extraordinary spectacle of the chief clerk combining in himself the offices of police sergeant and jailor, and his peon being the victualling contractor to the jail.

Remedy.

We are of opinion that the present state of things should not continue.

We are not unmindful of some of the advantages which the establishment of itinerating courts affords, but the simple idea of bringing justice nearer home becomes, in our opinion, complicated in its present mode of working, by the elements which appear to be introduced by the abuse of authority. If the proceedings in an itinerating Police Court are conducted in the way in which the law prescribes, the suitor cannot under existing rules have his plaint entertained until he personally appears before the Police Magistrate,—so that in point of fact the itinerating court gives a complainant before the Police Court no advantage except during the short time that the Magistrate presides in that court. Nor can he have any advantage as a suitor before the Court of Requests, if, as we recommend, no plaints should be accepted by the chief clerk during the absence of the Commissioner. A trial entails expense on the suitor, as he and his witnesses have to travel distances, and we grant that it is a convenience to the suitor that his case should be heard in the "itinerating court." We are not quite prepared to suggest the abolition of all itinerating courts, but we think that where they are considered necessary to be retained, the working of them should be upon a different system from that which obtains at present.

The business of the court, save in mere details of office work, should not be carried on except in the presence of, and under the authority, of the Judge.

In whichever court the Judge holds his sittings, such court should for the time being be deemed to be the court of the district, and business in the chief court of the district should be suspended, except such as might be legally conducted without the express authority of the Judge, such as the issue of processes and the like. The arrangement of work is a matter of detail which might be regulated by the Judge, having regard to the number of officers on his establishment and the nature of the business to be done during his absence. It is seldom that a Judge of an itinerating court has his session for more than three days, and his primary business there should be the hearing of cases.

The business of the itinerating court should be conducted by the officers of the chief court, and when the Judge goes to the former he should take some of his officers with him, probably the interpreter and the chief clerk. This system, which we strongly recommend, would dispense with the necessity of maintaining the present establishment in itinerating courts.

When the Judge presides in the itinerating court, he may there receive plaints in cases cognizable by any court in the district, and make his orders where the cases will be heard. If a

plaint be entered in the chief court, in a case which might conveniently be determined in the itinerating court, the summons should be issued for the party defendant to appear in the latter court; and in like manner, if a plaint be entered in the itinerating court, in a case properly triable in the chief court, process should issue for the appearance of the defendant in the chief court.

There should be but one trial roll for all courts in the district under the jurisdiction of the judge; and all cases instituted, whether in the chief or the itinerating court, should be numbered according to the order of institution, the judge fixing the court, having regard to the convenience of the parties, where the trial should take place.

All proceedings should be entitled as "In the court of ——— [here name place where the "chief court is held] holden at ——— [here name place where the itinerating court is held]."

In short, the principle we recommend is that the initiatory proceedings of the itinerating courts should be conducted through the machinery of the chief court; that there should be one staff of officers; and that the principal work of the itinerating court should be the disposal of trial cases.

We have had to consider but one case where the Assistant Government Agent performed the judicial work of the district. This was at Nuwara Eliya, the Assistant Government Agent being the Judge of the Minor Courts at Nuwara Eliya and also of the itinerating court at Maturata. Confessedly, this officer had very little time to attend to his judicial work, which was in consequence much neglected, and that through no fault of his, as he was obliged, often without notice, to leave the station on revenue duty. We recommend that when revenue officers cannot so regulate their revenue work as to save inconvenience to suitors, as appears to be the case at Nuwara Eliya, such officers should be relieved of judicial work.

General Supervision by Magistrates.

We believe that many of the abuses which have been proved to exist are due, to a great extent, to a want of careful and watchful supervision of the officers by the Judge of the court.

The procedure of Minor Courts is well adapted to their constitution, and if the Judge would place less power in the hands of subordinate officers, and occasionally inspect the details of work done by them, much opportunity would not be afforded for abuse.

It is extremely desirable that even in matters of detail, there should be a uniform system upon which the business of the courts should be conducted. We have in this report indicated the lines on which the rules are to be framed.

Mischief done by Barrators.

We cannot conclude this report without referring to what we consider to be a source of unmitigated evil in connection with the working of the Minor Courts, and which the evidence before us has disclosed.

It appears that there are a number of men loitering about the courts, who are indiscriminately known as "touts," "hawkers," "brokers to Proctors," and "out-door Proctors," who make it their occupation whenever a suitor is seen in the neighbourhood of the courts to pounce upon him and to take him to a petition-drawer or Proctor for the ostensible purpose of procuring him assistance. They have been described as men who "hover about the streets leading to the "courts, like so many ill-omened birds of prey, from early morning till late at night, and who "have no trade or legitimate calling, but who subsist by swindling."* Their main occupation is said to be the introduction of suitors to Proctors, and in consideration of the service so rendered they receive a reward or commission from the Proctors to whom the suitors are introduced. These men, we believe, work a great deal of mischief in setting themselves up as "out-door Proctors," and assisting the suitor in getting up false cases and fomenting litigation. They may be said to be common barrators of the worst kind.

The evidence establishes that some court peons act as "touts." Such interference with suitors on the part of any one connected with the court, we consider highly reprehensible, and should be visited with punishment.

We have reason to believe that these "out-door Proctors" are recognized by the court officers as representing suitors, and are allowed facilities which they ought not to have, and that in some instances the officers act in concert with these "out-door Proctors" to the detriment of the suitors.

The conduct of Proctors who employ these "touts" is far more reprehensible than that of the "tout" himself, for, if no encouragement were given to them by the Proctors, their infamous occupation would necessarily cease.

Existing legislation cannot reach these "touts." In 1873 the attention of the then Police Magistrate of Colombo was drawn to the existence of the evil by a prosecution instituted before him.† In that case the accused were found guilty and sentenced each to pay a fine of rupees ten, but the conviction was set aside in appeal as the plaint which charged the defendants with "loafing about the Police Court premises" did not disclose an offence under the Vagrants' Ordinance, under which they were charged.

In the year 1875 an equally ineffectual attempt was made to have these men punished. In this case, too,‡ the Supreme Court held that the parties could not be convicted, the offence being laid under the said Ordinance. The Supreme Court in setting aside the judgment observed: "There is no doubt that the prevalence of a system of this kind is a great evil, not only as giving

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* No. 20,848, Police Court of Colombo. † No. 6,229, Police Court of Colombo.
‡ No. 20,848, Police Court of Colombo.

"to unprofessional persons, over whom the Judges have no immediate control, and for whose "character there is no guarantee of any kind, a direct interest in encouraging litigation ; but also "of supplying unprincipled persons of this class the opportunities of defrauding ignorant native "suitors of their money, under colour of procuring for them professional advice and assistance. "Cases of dishonesty of this kind have been brought to our notice in which the offenders have "been severely punished, and a system that gives rise to such evil is deserving of the most "emphatic condemnation. But it must not be forgotten that the existence of the practice of "employing what are called 'out-door Proctors' is due not to the persons who are so employed, "but to those practitioners who employ them ; and the Supreme Court concurs with the view "expressed by the Police Magistrate that the conduct of such practitioners in soliciting business "by making use of the service of persons of questionable repute to bring them clients, and then "rewarding these persons with a share of the fees, is highly unprofessional and discreditable. "* * * * However desirable it may be that a practice so deservedly condemned "should be put an end to, we must be none the less careful not to strain the operation of an "Ordinance to meet a case to which it was not intended to apply, or to uphold a conviction on "insufficient evidence, in order to check an admitted evil."

We find that the Inspector-General of Police has in his report for 1883* referred to this subject in these terms : "Finally, I would say suppress as much as possible the low class of self-"styled lawyers, who, under the name of 'out door Proctors,' more or less infest the purlieus of "every court in Ceylon, great and small. They incite the people to litigation for their own petty "advantage."

We recommend that the evil be met by legislation, by its being declared that any person who not being a Proctor or Advocate, or an agent or attorney duly empowered in writing in that behalf, or otherwise authorized by law, shall assist any other person in any suit or prosecution instituted by him for a consideration or reward, or any person who shall habitually introduce suitors to professional men for a commission or reward to be to him paid, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty rupees, and that any proctor who shall employ any person to introduce suitors to him, or shall pay any such person a commission or reward for introducing suitors to him, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty rupees.

We much regret that we had not the assistance and advice of Mr. Sinclair at the final adoption of this report, as business of an urgent nature compelled him to leave for England about the end of September. But he was present at a meeting of the Commission when the lines upon which the report as now drawn were, as we understood, agreed to by him.

We beg leave to append hereto the minutes of our proceedings. †

We have the honor to be,

HONOURABLE SIR,

Your Excellency's most humble and obedient Servants,

JAMES VAN LANGENBERG.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
G. S. WILLIAMS.
FRAS. R. ELLIS.

JAMES SINCLAIR, ESQ., to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

Colombo, 27th September, 1884

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to inform you that business of an urgent nature compels my departure for England to-day, and as the Commission appointed by Your Excellency to enquire into alleged abuses in the Minor Courts will in all probability send in their report before I return, I have thought it desirable, in order that the report may be as complete as possible, to briefly address Your Excellency on the subject.

The Commission have met and agreed on the lines on which the report is to be drawn up, and it will be seen that there were good grounds for the allegations made regarding the existence of grave abuses in our Courts, in the Fiscals' Department, and amongst the Police, and I think the remedies proposed by the legal gentlemen of the Commission and the two official members will prove beneficial, if approved of and given effect to by Your Excellency.

With reference to the want of support given to the Commission by Planters, it is to be accounted for by the terror exercised by the Court officials and the Police in the different districts. Intelligent kanganies who had been loud in their complaints previously, point blank refused to come forward because as they said, "a false case will be concocted against us, in which the officials "will help in the background, and we shall be put to no end of trouble and expense in defending "ourselves."

The information the Commissioners were placed in possession of in Badulla was acquired through the efforts of a dimissed official (a once Deputy Fiscal), who, from motives of revenge, influenced those who had real grounds for complaint to come before the Commission, and personally I have but little doubt had the Commissioners had a dismissed official at other courts, one who had formerly participated in the extortions, and who knew exactly how to bring them to light, abundant and as clear evidence of the abuses would have been the result as was the case at Badulla.

I have, &c.,
JAMES SINCLAIR.

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* Page 41, paragraph 108. † Appendix H.

APPENDIX.

A 1.

The CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION to the SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Colombo, 2nd April, 1884.

SIR,—I BEG to enclose copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the "Minor Courts Commission" held on the 29th ultimo, and shall be obliged by your favouring the Commission with the information asked for. Any *specific* charges of "abuse" the Commission will be prepared to deal with on being advised thereof.

I may add that the Commission purpose commencing their enquiry in Colombo on Saturday, the 26th instant, and will, after due notification, continue the enquiry at other places.

I am, &c.,
JAMES VAN LANGENBERG,
Chairman.

A 2.

The SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION to the CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

Kandy, 4th April, 1884.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, which shall be laid before the Committee at its first meeting.

I am, &c.,
A. PHILIP,
Secretary.

A 3.

The SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION to the CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

Kandy, 22nd April, 1884.

SIR,—REFERRING to my letter of the 4th instant, I have the honor to inform you that your letter was considered by the Committee of the Planters' Association at a meeting held yesterday.

In reply, I am directed to state that there is great difficulty in submitting definite evidence of specific cases of abuse; the abuses chiefly complained of affecting native and not European suitors. In terms of your letter, application was made throughout the various districts for information regarding specific charges, and replies have been received from several districts, asserting the existence of abuses as a notorious facts, but intimating that evidence in support of specific cases is not easily procurable.

I am to enclose for your information copy of a letter received from Mr. Osborne, member of Committee for Madulsima and Héwa Eliya, as the facts therein attested, the Committee think, show grave irregularities in the Fiscal's Department, and point very clearly to the questionable character of natives' oaths and affidavits, and the consequent necessity for discrimination in receiving such evidence in Minor Courts.

In view of a letter received from Mr. Sinclair expressing a wish for information as to the nature of the abuses irrespective of specific cases, efforts will be made to furnish such information of a general character from Kanganies and others as may serve to show the nature of the abuses complained of.

I am, &c.,
A. PHILIP,
Secretary.

A 4.

Enclosure in above.

Mr. G. E. OSBORNE to the SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Cocogalla Estate, Lunugala, 14th April, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—I AM in receipt of your letter of 7th instant, and will endeavour to collect information in this district with regard to abuses in the Minor Courts.

I may at once mention a case that came under my own notice recently. In the District Court of Badulla, an order had been made that a summons should be served in a case against a gentleman for whom I am acting as Power of Attorney, and the court directed that the summons should be served upon me. However, I saw nothing of the summons, and was surprised when my Proctor wrote to say that the process server had sworn an affidavit that he had served the summons upon me personally on the 8th January last. No summons in the case was ever served upon me, nor could I find that a peon had been seen about here. I came into Badulla and complained to the Deputy Fiscal, but although the peon was obliged to admit that he did not serve the summons upon me personally, I believe nothing further was done in the matter. In fact, this matter was treated more as a joke, the Proctors standing by remarking that this sort of thing was of daily occurrence in the Badulla Court; and I believe they are right.

However, it appeared to me that when such cases are clearly proved, it would be well that a severe penalty should be inflicted.

I enclose the letter from my Proctor.

I am, &c.,
G. E. OSBORNE.

Copy of Letter referred to.

Badulla, 14th January, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—William Appu, the process server who was entrusted with the service of the summons in Mr. Linton's case, has sworn an affidavit to the effect that he did, on the 8th of January, 1884, serve a copy of the summons on the person of Mr. G. E. Osborne. Is this the case? If not, you will have to report his conduct to the Fiscal as well as to the District Judge In any case, I think it would be advisable for you to come into Badulla as soon as you conveniently can about this matter.

I am, &c.,
W. VANDORT.

A 5.

The SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION to the CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

SIR,—REFERRING to my letter of the 22nd instant, I have the honor to annex copy of a resolution passed by the Dikoya Planters' Association at a recent meeting convened to consider your letter of the 2nd instant.

I am to add that, if the request of the Dikoya *(sic)* is complied with, it is hoped that most important disclosures will result from the examination of coolies and kanganies resident in the district.

I am, &c.,
A. PHILIP,
Secretary.

Copy of Resolution referred to.

"That the Minor Courts Commission be asked to hold one of their courts of enquiry in this district, and give as long notice as possible."

A 6.

The SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION to the CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to annex for your guidance copy of a letter received from the Honorary Secretary of the Maskeliya Planters' Association.

I am, &c.,
A. PHILIP,
Secretary.

Copy of Letter referred to.

Bunyan, 10th May, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of 25th April *re* Minor Courts Commiss on, I am directed to inform you that this district will, in the event of the Commission coming to Dikoya, send evidence to show the nature of the abuses complained of.

I am, &c.,
C. E. WELLDON,
Secretary, M. P. A.

B.

STATEMENT showing the place at, and the dates on, which the sittings of the Minor Courts Commission were held.

Colombo	...	29th March, 1884 3rd, 5th, and 6th May, 1884	Dikoya	..	11th and 12th June, 1884
Moraṭuwa	..	7th May, 1884	Dimbula	...	13th and 14th do.
Pánaduŕé	...	8th do.	Nuwara Eliya	...	16th and 17th do.
Kalutara	...	10th do.	Maturaṭa	..	18th June, 1884
Negombo	...	12th do.	Nuwara Eliya	...	19th do.
Kégalla	...	14th do.	Badulla	..	23rd and 24th June, 1884
Kandy	...	15th, 16th, and 17th May, 1884	Haldummulla	..	27th June, 1884
Mátalé	...	19th May, 1884.	Balangoḍa	...	30th do.
Kandy	...	20th do.	Rakwána	..	2nd July, 1884
Gampola	...	21st do.	Ratnapura	...	4th and 5th July, 1884
Pusselláwa	...	23rd do.	Avisáwélla	..	7th July, 1884
Galagedara	..	27th do.	Colombo	...	9th do.
Kandy	...	28th do.	Pasyála	...	11th do.
Paṷwila	...	29th do.	Colombo	...	19th do.
Teldeniya	...	30th do.	Colombo	...	6th September, 1884
Náwalapiṭiya	...	9th June, 1884	Colombo	...	30th October, 1884

C.

EVIDENCE.

[*Not published.*]

D.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL of POLICE to the CHAIRMAN of the MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

No. 1,964. Colombo, 12th May, 1884.

SIR,—One of the greatest evils connected with the Minor Courts is the prevalence of postponements, which are said to be often due to the action of the clerks of those courts. In case this comes within the scope of your enquiry, I would quote from the 35th paragraph of my printed Administration Report for 1879 :—

"As whatever produces an increase of lawlessness is a matter for police consideration, I may be permitted to say a few words regarding the courts of the Police Magistrates and of the Justices of the Peace. If there is a want

of thoroughness in some of the cases in these courts, it is not to be wondered at; nor are the Magistrates often to be blamed. Most of the courts are constantly thronged by the most litigious people that can well be found, and the crowds of cases—many of which are malicious, false, or frivolous—often leave but little time for the thorough investigation of such as are true. The consequences must be frequent miscarriage of justice, and the constant and long postponements, which cause distress and loss of money and time to witnesses and accused."

2. In the foot-note to the same paragraph it was stated that:

"Of the 3,255 cases brought by the Police of the Western Province before the Courts in 1879, 725 had one postponement, 290 had two, 128 had three, 53 had four, 20 had five, 14 had six, 4 had seven, and 5 had eight. Only 2,016 were disposed of on the day of appearance. To the police, postponements give great labour and hindrance."

3. The overcrowding of courts with false cases and the consequent prevalence of postponements are not so bad as they were 15 years ago; nevertheless I append a copy of what I wrote on the subject in paragraphs 140 and 141 of my Administration Report for 1869:—

"140. As already remarked, one of the results of the pressure put upon the courts by the multitude of false cases is, that there is no time to go thoroughly into the real cases—or sometimes to go into them at all. A frequent consequence of this is that in such cases after numerous harassing postponements, the witnesses cease to attend, and often the complainant himself remains away; preferring to go unredressed to being worried by repeated journeys and repeated hangings on in the purlieus of the court. Very often, too, he takes a consideration from the accused—in the case of theft or burglary, perhaps a little more than the actual loss—to stay away on the day of trial. Under any of these circumstances the case is struck off, and the Magistrate is relieved of another on the long list of cases, all of which he could not hope ever to go regularly through. As I have already shown, out of 163,426 accused persons during 1869, the enormous number of 112,367 were dismissed without any trial whatever. With all these struck-off cases the clerks of the court have had far more to do than the Magistrates have had.

"141. Nothing can be more pernicious than the condonement of offences, just referred to. If a thief in case of detection can escape imprisonment by paying to the complainant a little more than he stole from him, he cannot in any case be a great sufferer, while in the six undetected cases for every one detected, which as an ordinarily prosperous rogue must fall to his share, the benefit is all his own."

If the matter I bring to your notice is beyond the scope of your enquiry, I apologise for troubling you. I venture to do so, as it is a matter of so great importance to the country.

I am, &c.,

G. W. R. CAMPBELL,
Inspector-General of Police.

E.

RETURN showing the frequency of postponements in Cases in Minor Courts. [*Not published.*]

E 1.—Abstract as regards POLICE Court Cases.

	On the first date.	After the first date.		On the first date.	After the first date.
Badulla ..	7 ...	2 after 1 postponement	Mátalé ...	9 ...	3 after 1 postponement
		5 „ 2 do.			1 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 3 do.			1 „ 3 do.
Dikoya ..	13 ...	2 „ 1 do	Náwalapitiya ...	8 ...	4 „ 1 do.
Dimbula ..	10 ..	2 „ 1 do.			2 „ 3 do.
		3 „ 3 do.			1 „ 6 do.
Galagedara ...	8 .	1 „ 1 do.	Negombo ..	10 ...	3 „ 1 do.
		3 „ 2 do.			1 „ 2 do.
		2 „ 3 do.			1 „ 3 do.
		1 „ 4 do.	Paŋwila ..	4 ...	8 „ 1 do
Gampola ..	9 ...	2 „ 1 do			2 „ 2 do.
		3 „ 2 do.			1 „ 5 do.
		1 „ 4 do.	Urugala	10	5 „ 1 do.
Haldummulla ...	7 ..	4 „ 1 do.			
		3 „ 2 do.			
		1 „ 3 do.			

Disposed of on the first date	...	95	Disposed of after 4 postponements... 2
Disposed of after 1 postponement	...	36	Do. 5 do. ... 1
Do. 2 do.	...	18	Do. 6 do. ... 1
Do. 3 do.	...	11	

E 2.

E 2.—Abstract as regards COURT of Requests Cases.

	On the first date.	After the first date.		On the first date.	After the first date.
Badulla	... 12 ...	1 after 1 postponement	Kandy *(contd.)*	—	1 after 3 postponements
Dikoya	... 12 ...	2 „ 1 do.			1 „ 4 do.
		1 „ 4 do.			1 „ 8 do.
Dimbula	... 15	—	Mátalé	... 12 ...	2 „ 1 do.
Galagedara	... 9 ...	4 „ 1 do.			2 „ 2 do.
		2 „ 2 do.	Náwalapitiya	... 8 ...	6 „ 1 do.
Gampola	... 10 ...	4 „ 1 do.			1 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 4 do.	Negombo	13 ...	1 „ 1 do.
Haldummulla	... 11 ...	3 „ 1 do.			1 „ 5 do.
		1 „ 2 do.	Paŋwila	... 9 ...	3 „ 1 do.
Kandy	... 9 ...	4 „ 1 do.			3 „ 2 do.
		4 „ 2 do.	Urugala	... 11 ...	4 „ 1 do.

Disposed of on the first date	.	131	Disposed of after 4 postponements... 3
Disposed of after 1 postponement	.	34	Do. 5 do. ... 1
Do. 2 do.	...	13	Do. 8 do. ... 1
Do. 3 do.	...	1	

E 3.

Justice of the Peace Cases disposed of.

	On the first date.	After the first date.
Badulla	... 5 ...	4 after 1 postponement
		4 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 4 do.
		1 „ 6 do.
Dikoya	... 2 ...	1 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 2 do.
		6 „ 5 do.
		1 „ 6 do.
Dimbula	... 8 ...	3 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 5 do.
Galagedara	... 4 ...	6 „ 1 do.
		2 „ 2 do.
Gampola	... 7 ...	2 „ 1 do.
		4 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 3 do.
		1 „ 4 do.
Haldummulla	... 6 ...	3 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 5 do
		1 „ 6 do.
Kalutara	... 5 ..	5 „ 1 do.
		3 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 3 do.
Kalutara	... 5 ...	2 after 4 postponements
		2 „ 5 do.
		1 „ 14 do.
Kandy	... 3 ...	2 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 2 do.
		4 „ 3 do.
		2 „ 5 do.
		2 „ 6 do.
Mátalé	... 8 ...	5 „ 1 do.
		2 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 5 do.
Náwalapiṭiya	... 4 ...	6 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 2 do.
		1 „ 3 do.
		1 „ 4 do.
		1 „ 7 do.
		1 „ 9 do.
Negombo	... 10 ...	2 „ 1 do.
		2 „ 2 do.
Paṇwila	.. 8 ..	4 „ 1 do.
		1 „ 3 do.
		1 „ 4 do.
Urugala	... 11 ..	1 „ 1 do.

Disposed of on the first date ...	81	Disposed of after 5 postponements	13
Disposed of after 1 postponement	44	Do. 6 do.	5
Do. 2 do. ...	21	Do. 7 do.	1
Do. 3 do. ...	8	Do. 9 do.	1
Do 4 do. ...	66	Do. 14 do.	1

F.

Return of Pending Cases.—Minor Courts.

Court.		Number of Cases pending over three months and less than four.	Over four months and less than five	Over five months and less than six.	Over six months, giving the Number of each Case.
Kégalla (1st July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	8	—	1*	—
Kandy (8th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	1	3	1	(One) 22,855
Pánaduré (1st July, 1884)	J. P.	1	2	—	870
	P. C.	2	3	—	6280, 6298
	C. R.	—	2	—	—
Negombo (8th July, 1884)	J. P.	1	—	—	(One) 15,096
	P. C.	10	5	—	53,273, 53,704, 53,925, 54,003
	C. R.	10	4	3	29 cases (Nos. not entered here)
Haldummulla (1st July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	—	1	—	—
Galagedara (8th July, 1884)	J. P.	2	1	—	—
	P. C.	10	1	—	(One) 28,755
	C. R.	2	2	3	—
Paṇwila (10th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	—	1	—	—
Dimbula (8th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	—	—	—	—
Dikoya (8th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	—	—	—	—
Badulla (9th July, 1884)	J. P.	1	—	—	—
	P. C.	1	—	1	(One) 24,304
	C. R.	5	2	1	(Six) 24,304, 16,868, 17,038, 17,045, 17,046, 17,055, 17,056
Balangoḍa (11th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	2	—	—	—
	C. R.	2	1	2	—

* S. not served.

F.—*continued.*

Court.		Number of Cases pending over three months and less than four.	Over four months and less than five.	Over five months and less than six.	Over six months, giving the Number of each Case.
Ratnapura and Rakwána (11th July, 1884) ...	J. P.	2	1	2	10
	P. C.	6	3	1	21
	C. R.	13	3	10	10
Nuwara Eliya (15th July, 1884)	J. P.	—	—	—	(Two) 460 & 1,820
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	3	2	4	(Two) 8,832 & 8,833
Kalutara (11th July, 1884) ...	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	5	7	1	(Two) 49,922 & 50,123
Avisáwélla (15th July, 1884) ...	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	1	—	—	—
	C. R.	9	2	2	(Three) 14,510, 14,543, 14,563
Urugala (17th July, 1884) ..	J. P.	—	1	—	—
	P. C.	—	1	—	(One) 755
	C. R.	—	—	—	—
Maturaṭa (18th July, 1884) ...	J. P.	2	1	—	—
	P. C.	4	—	3	(Four) 9,353, 9,357, 9,615, 9,620
	C. R.	1	2	2	(One) 4,120
Pasyála (23rd July, 1884) ...	J. P.	2	—	—	—
	P. C.	3	—	—	—
	C. R.	4	4	5	(One) 387
Mátalé (14th July, 1884) ...	J. P.	1	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	8	—	—	(Two) 3,750 & 48,999
Gampola	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R	—	—	—	—
Náwalapiṭiya ...	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	1	—	—	—
Pussellâwa	J. P.	—	—	—	—
	P. C.	—	—	—	—
	C. R.	—	—	—	—

G.

RETURN of Work done in the Itinerating or Circuit Courts during the year 1883.

Court.		No. of Cases pending, 1st January, 1883.	No. decided in 1883.	Pending 31st December, 1883.
Dikoya	J. P. ...	7 ...	31 ...	11
	P. C. ..	144 ...	558 ..	203
	C. R. ...	4	122 ..	13
Urugala	J. P. ...	12 ..	80 ...	7
	P. C. ...	45 ..	368 ..	47
	C. R. ..	15 ..	100 ...	40
Maturaṭa	J. P. ...	(Return does not show) ...	48 ..	(Return does not show)
	P. C. ...	do. ...	225 ...	do.
	C. R. ...	do. ...	135 ...	do.
Rakwána	J. P. ..	do. ..	84 ...	do.
	P. C. ...	do. ..	198 ...	do.
	C. R. ...	do. ..	157 ...	do.
Pasyála	J. P. ...	7 ...	122 ...	21
	P. C. ...	45 ..	538 ...	70
	C. R. ...	52 ...	379 ..	45
Balangoḍa	J. P. ...	21 ...	119 ...	4
	P. C. ...	20 ...	301 ...	16
	C. R. ...	(Return does not show) ...	(Does not show) ..	(Does not show)
Náwalapiṭiya	J. P. ...	6 ...	95 ..	7
	P. C. ...	25 ...	975 ...	38
	C. R. ...	37 ...	354 ...	23

H.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

Colombo, 29th March, 1884.

The First Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.
G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

THE Commission, and correspondence thereon between the Colonial Secretary and the Chairman were read.

A memorandum drawn up by Mr. R. H. Sinclair referring to the working of Minor Courts, and a letter from the Colonial Secretary dated March 27th, forwarding it to the Chairman, were read.

It was resolved that the Planters' Association be requested to assist the Commission with information as to the general character and nature of the abuses which are alleged to exist in the working of the Minor Courts.

It was resolved that the inquiry commence with the Minor Courts in Colombo, and that a meeting be fixed for April 26th, at 11 A.M.*

It was also decided that notices of the sittings of the Commission be posted up in the Colombo Courts, the Fiscal's Office, and other public places; and that they be published in the local newspapers.

It was decided that the Commission should sit on Wednesday, May 7th, at Moratuwa, at 11 A.M.; on Thursday, May 8th, at Pánaduré, at 11 A.M.; on Saturday, May 10th, at Kalutara, at 11 A.M.; on Monday, May 12th, at Negombo, at 11 A.M.

Colombo, 3rd May, 1884.

The Second Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.	F. R. ELLIS, Esq.
G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.	J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of March 29th were read and approved.

Two letters from the Colonial Secretary, dated April 9th and April 21st, referring to the appointment of a Secretary, an Interpreter, and a Peon, were read.

A letter from the Secretary of the Planters' Association, dated April 22nd, stating that application was made throughout the various districts for information regarding specific charges of abuse, and that replies were received asserting the existence of abuses as a notorious fact, but intimating that evidence in support of specific cases is not easily procurable, was read.

A copy of a letter dated April 11th, from Mr. G. E. Osborne, Member of Committee for Madulsíma and Héwá Eliya (forwarded by the Secretary of the Planters' Association with the above letter), stating that he will endeavour to collect information in his district with regard to abuses in the Minor Courts, was also read.

A letter from the Secretary of the Planters' Association, dated April 25th, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by the Dikoya Planters' Association, and stating that if the request of the Dikoya Association is complied with, it is hoped that most important disclosures will result from the examination of coolies and kanganies resident in the district, was read.

The resolution referred to in the above letter is:—"That the Minor Courts Commission be asked to hold one of their courts of inquiry in the Dikoya district, and give as long notice as possible."

A letter from the Secretary of the Planters' Association, dated May 12th, and its enclosure, a copy of a letter dated May 10th from Mr. C. E. Welldon, Honorary Secretary of the Maskeliya Planters' Association, stating that that district will, in the event of the Commission coming to Dikoya, send evidence to show the nature of the abuses complained of, were read.

A letter from Mr. Melville White, of Matale, dated April 26th, addressed to Mr. James Sinclair, asking information as to the places where the sittings of the Commission will be held, was also read.

Mr. Sinclair informed the Commission that he had replied to this letter.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) E. F. Perera, (2) S. C. Obeyesekere, (3) A. Jayawardene, (4) W. Perera, (5) C. Perera.

It was decided that the Commission should sit on Wednesday, May 14th, at Kégalla, at 1 P.M.; on Thursday, May 15th, at Kandy, at 2 P.M.; on Monday, May 19th, at Mátalé, at 10·30 A.M.; on Wednesday, May 21st, at Gampola, at 10·30 A.M.; on Friday, May 23rd, at Pussellάwa, at 10 30 A.M.

The Commission decided to sit in Colombo on Monday, May 5th, at 11 A.M.

Colombo, 5th May, 1884.

The Third Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN.	F. R. ELLIS, Esq.
G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.	J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The Minutes of May 3rd were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) W. J. S. Boake, (2) J. D. Mason, (3) H. W. Direckze.

It was decided that the Commission should sit on Tuesday, May 27th, at Galagedara, at 10.30 A.M.; on Thursday, May 29th, at Panwila, at 10.30 A.M.; on Friday, May 30th, at Teldeniya Rest-house (for Urugala), at 10.30 A.M.

The Commission decided to hold a sitting at Hulftsdorp, on May 6th, at 11 A.M., to inspect the records of the Minor Courts of Colombo; and to sit at Moratuwa on Wednesday, May 7th, at 11 A.M.

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* It was afterwards decided by the Commission to sit on Saturday, May 3rd, at 11 A.M., instead of April 26th.

MINOR COURTS COMMISSION.

Colombo, 6th May, 1884.

The Fourth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

Records of the Police Court of Colombo, the register of process issued to the Fiscal, and the Police Court calendar were inspected.

Records of the Court of Requests of Colombo and the register of process were inspected.

Justice of the Peace Records and Justice of the Peace calendar were inspected.

Moratuwa, 7th May, 1884.

The Fifth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) Don Francisco Ferdinando, (2) Harmanis Fernando.

The Commission decided to sit at Pánaduré on Thursday, May 8th, at 11 A.M.

Panadure, 8th May, 1884.

The Sixth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 5th, 6th and 7th, were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) P. Daniel, (2) B. O. Dias, (3) C. Jayesinghe, (4) J. S. Drieberg.

Records of the Minor Courts of Pánaduré were inspected.

A copy of the rules posted up by Mr. J. S. Drieberg in the Courts at Pánaduré was received from him.

The Commission decided to sit at Kalutara on Saturday, May 10th, at 11 A.M.

Kalutara, 10th May, 1884.

The Seventh Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.
G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 8th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) F. S. Thomasz, (2) W. Vanderwall, (3) E. Orr, (4) P. P. Wijeyeratne, (5) D. De Silva, (6) J. J. Christoffelsz, (7) P. Arunáchalam.

Records of the Minor Courts of Kalutara were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Negombo on Monday, May 12th, at 11 A.M.

Negombo, 12th May, 1884.

The Eighth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 10th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) Gabriel Croos, (2) H. Ball, (3) F. J. Beling, (4) J. J. Koertsz, (5) Casie Lebbe Usoof Lebbe, (6) G. F. Keertisinhe, (7) P. G. Abeyesinhe, (8) F. J. De Livera.

A specimen of the form of Fiscal's return of service of process, suggested by Mr. H. Ball, was received from him.

Records of the Minor Courts of Negombo were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Kégalla on Wednesday, May 14th, at 1 P.M.

Kegalla, 14th May, 1884.

The Ninth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.,

The minutes of May 12th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) J. M. Perera, (2) F. C. Appellesz, (3) J. P. Herat, (4) E. F. Hopkins.

The Commission decided to sit at Kandy on Thursday, May 15th, at 2 P.M.

Kandy, 15th May, 1884.

The Tenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.,

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.,

The minutes of May 14th were read and approved.

The evidence of Mr. J. D. Jonklaas was taken down by the Secretary.

The Commission decided to sit in Kandy on Friday, May 16th, at 11 A.M.

Kandy, 16th May, 1884.

The Eleventh Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 15th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) C. Vanderwall, (2) E. Swan, (3) R. Drieberg, (4) J. D. Jonklaas, (5) R. W. Jonklaas, (6) A. T. Staples.

It was decided that the Commission should sit on Monday, June 9th, at Náwalapiṭiya at 1 P.M.; on Wednesday, June 11th, at Dikoya, at 1 P.M.; on Friday, June 13th, at Dimbula, at 1 P.M.; on Monday, June 16th, at Nuwara Eliya, at 1 P.M.; on Wednesday, June 18th, at Maturaṭa, at 1 P.M.; on Monday, June 23rd, at Badulla, at 1 P.M.; on Friday, June 27th, at Haldummulla, at 11 A.M.; on Monday, June 30th, at Balangoḍa, at 11 A.M.; on Wednesday, July 2nd, at Rakwána at 11 A.M.; on Saturday, July 5th, at Ratnapura, at 11 A.M.; on Monday, July 7th, at Avisawélla, at 11 A.M.; on Wednesday, July 9th, at Colombo, at 11 A.M.; on Friday, July 11th, at Pasyála, at 11 A.M.

A list of the out-door proctors, referred to in the evidence of Mr. J. D. Jonklaas, and the number of the J. P. record referred to by him (18,249 J. P. Kandy) were received from him.

The Commission decided to sit in Kandy on Saturday, May 17th, at 11 A.M.

Kandy, 17th May, 1884.

The Twelfth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of May 16th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) T. M. Gibson, (2) Don Dines, (3) B. Gomes, (4) D. K. Appuhami, (5) J. C. Ratnáyaka, (6) Seyedu Mohamadu, (7) H. Andris Appuhami, (8) Casie Lebbe Marikar, (9) A. Dassenaike, (10) S. Mutukisna.

A letter from the Attorney-General, dated May 14th, 1884, forwarding a petition of K. M. Punchi Banda, of Badulla District, respecting certain Police Court and J. P. records, was read.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and to inform the Attorney-General that the subject of it will receive the attention of the Commission.

The Commission decided to sit at Mátalé on Monday, May 19th, at 10·30 A.M.

Matale, 19th May, 1884.

The Thirteenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

Hon. P. Rama Nathan.	F. R. Ellis, Esq.
G. S. Williams, Esq.	J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of May 17th were read and approved.

A letter from the Inspector-General of Police, dated May 12th, 1884, calling the attention of the Commission to certain portions of his Administration Reports for 1869 and 1879, was read.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and to inform the Inspector-General of Police that the subject of it will receive the attention of the Commission.

A letter from Mr. William Ward, of Eden Grove Estate, dated May 16th, 1884, stating that he withdraws a complaint made by him touching the Minor Courts at Urugala, was read.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) J. B. Williamson, (2) D. Tillekaratna, (3) F. A. Prins, (4) G. Saxton, (5) G. Wijeyekoon, (6) S. P. Chelliah.

The Commission decided to sit at Kandy on Tuesday, May 20th, at 11 A.M.

Kandy, 20th May, 1884.

The Fourteenth Sitting of the Commission

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

Hon. P. Rama-Nathan.	F. R. Ellis, Esq.
G. S. Williams, Esq.	J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of May 19th were read and approved.

The evidence of Mr. S. P. Chelliah was taken down by the Secretary.

The Commission decided to sit at Gampola on Wednesday, May 21st, at 10·30 A.M.

Gampola, 21st May, 1884.

The Fifteenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

Hon P. Rama-Nathan.	F. R. Ellis, Esq.
G. S. Williams, Esq.	J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of May 20th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) J. W. Swan, (2) J. H. Grenier, (3) P. R. M. Selembram Chetty, (4) Jallal Lantra, (5) T. M. Twigg, (6) Amarapadeo, (7) Mohidin Piche.

The Commission decided to sit at Pussellawa on Friday, 23rd May, at 10·30 A.M.

Pussellawa, 23rd May, 1884.

The Sixteenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of May 21st were read and approved

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) J Appaswamy, (2) Copi Cangany, (3) Marianen Cangany, (4) Ferdinand Carey, (5) D. Silva, (6) Sangan Cangany, (7) Andiappen Cangany.

Records of the Minor Courts of Pussellawa and the Detail Diary of the Police Sergeant were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Galagedara on Tuesday, May 27th, at 10·30 A.M.

Galagedara, 27th May, 1884.

The Seventeenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. Rama-Nathan, in the Chair.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R. Ellis, Esq.

J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of May 23rd were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) E. Paranagama, (2) W. D. Landsberger, (3) W. R. Vanderput, (4) W. A. B. Abeyekoon, (5) G. Bellet.

Records of the Minor Courts of Galagedara were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Kandy on Wednesday, May 28th, at 11 A.M.

Kandy, 28th May, 1884.

The Eighteenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 27th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) Karpen Chetty, (2) Mutu Ramen Chetty, (3) Caderewel.

The Commission decided to sit at Paṉwila on Thursday, May 29th, at 10·30 A.M.

Panwila, 29th May, 1884.

The Nineteenth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of May 28th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) H. W. Brodhurst, (2) E. P. Holmes, (3) Pombeyan Kanganv, (4) Shemseddin, (5) G. De Silva, (6) Suppiah Kangany, (7) Solemala Kangany, (8) T. C. Owen, (9) Mayandi Kangany.

Records of the Minor Courts of Paṉwila were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Teldeniya Rest-house on Friday, May 30th, at 10·30 A.M.

Teldeniya, 30th May, 1884.

The Twentieth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

There were no complaints, and no witnesses were examined.

The Commission decided to sit at Náwalapiṭiya on Monday, June 9th, at 1 P.M.

Nawalapitiya, 9th June, 1884.

The Twenty-first Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of May 29th were read and approved.

A petition from Mordappen, of Náwalapiṭiya, complaining of certain irregularities on the part of the Chief Clerk of the Dimbula courts, in respect of a certain J. P. case (No. 9,030 Matalé), was read.

The Secretary was directed to write to the Justice of the Peace of Matalé, asking him to send up the record referred to.

A petition from K. Sabápathipillai, of Náwalapiṭiya, complaining that case No 1,432, J. P. Náwalapiṭiya, was wrongly dismissed, was read.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) Mordappen, (2) W. H. Herft, (3) G. A. VanHouten.

The Commission decided to sit at Dikoya on Wednesday, June 11th, at 1 P.M.

Dikoya, 11th June, 1884.

The Twenty-Second Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of June 9th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) F. G. A. Lane, (2) Paul Cangany, (3) M. Sinnetamby, (4) R. B. Arthur, (5) T. H. Pickford, (6) Kali Muttu Cangany, (7) Ossen Saibu Mahomed, (8) Appasami, (9) H. Tipple, (10) B. Fernando, (11) Armogan Cangany, (12) Veremuttu Kanukapillai.

A letter from Mr. J. Sinclair, stating that he had intimated to Mr. Welldon, Secretary of the Maskeliya Planters' Association, that it would be better for complainants from Maskeliya to go to Dikoya on the second day's sitting rather than the first, was read.

The Commission decided to sit at Dikoya on Thursday, June 12th, at 11 A.M.

Dikoya, 12th June, 1884.

The Twenty-third Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R. Ellis, Esq.

The minutes of June 11th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary:—(1) Vera Muttu Canakapillai, (2) Sinna Sami, (3) Devasagayam, (4) O. S. Mahmood.

A letter from Mr. Bremner, of Tientsin State, forwarding a letter from Mr. Farr, J. P., and a letter from Mr. T. N. Christie, of St. Andrew's, Maskeliya, were read.

Records of the Dikoya Court and the Detail Diary of the Police Sergeant were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Dimbula on Friday, June 13th, at 1 P.M.

Dimbula, 13th June, 1884.

The Twenty-fourth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R. Ellis, Esq.

J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of June 12th were read and approved

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down:—(1) Carupiah, (2) Nayagam Asari, (3) L. Daundesekere, (4) Narayan Asari, (5) Pichandi, (6) Ramasamy Kangany, (7) Ramasami Kanagany, of Mt. Vernon, (8) Veerasamy, (9) Manikkan, (10) Baba Lungse Jaya, (11) Mutusami Kangani, (12) Gula Mohidin, (13) Ahamat Janan, (14) Anthony

A letter from Mr. Cantlay of Mt. Vernon Estate, dated June 13th, 1884, was read.

The Commission decided to sit at Dimbula on Saturday, June 14th, at 11 A.M.

Dimbula, 14th June, 1884.

The Twenty-fifth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R. Ellis, Esq.

J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of June 13th were read and approved

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down:—(1) M. Crawford, (2) L. Daundesekere, (3) H Palawandram, (4) E. Elders (5) Selembrem Cangany, (6) Gula Mohideen.

Records of the Dimbula Courts were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Nuwara Eliya on Monday, June 16th, at 1 P.M.

Nuwara Eliya, 16th June, 1884.

The Twenty-sixth Sitting of the Commission.

Present

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R. Ellis, Esq.

J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of June 14th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down:—(1) Murgen Cangany, (2) A. L. Cross, (3) J. G. Bartholomeusz, (4) G. A. Baumgartner.

The Commission decided to sit at Nuwara Eliya on Tuesday, June 17th, at 11 A.M.

Nuwara Eliya, 17th June, 1884.

The Twenty-seventh Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Chairman.

G. S. Williams, Esq. | F. R Ellis, Esq.

J. Sinclair, Esq.

The minutes of June 16th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down:—(1) A. B. Barris, (2) Geo. Weerekoon, (3) A. B. Thomasz.

The Commission decided to sit at Maturatuon Wednesday, June 18th, at 1 P.M.

Maturata, 18th June, 1884.

The Twenty-eighth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) Veren Kangany, (2) Cuppen Kangany, (3) Ramasamy Kangany, (4) Letchimi, (5) J. De Silva, (6) Ukku Banda, (7) J. V. H. Owen, (8) J. De Silva.

Records of the Minor Courts of Maturata were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Nuwara Eliya on Thursday, June 19th, at 11 A.M.

Nuwara Eliya, 19th June, 1884.

The Twenty-ninth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of June 18th were read and approved.

The evidence of Mr. Ernest Messervy was taken down.

Records of the Minor Courts of Nuwara Eliya were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Badulla on Monday, June 23rd, at 1 P.M.

Badulla, 23rd June, 1884.

The Thirtieth Sitting of the Commission.

Present

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of 17th and 19th June were read and approved.

Two letters dated 18th and 21st June, from Mr C. Perera, of Badulla, were read.

A letter dated 10th June, from D. A. De Silva, of Urugala, and a letter dated 23rd June, from J. K. Heberala, were read.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down by the Secretary :—(1) C. Perera, (2) Kalu Banda, (3) J. G. Goonetilleke, (4) J. Krause, (5) Noris Silva, (6) Hendrick Appu, (7) J. W. Meaden.

The Commission decided to sit at Badulla on Tuesday, June 24th, at 11 A.M.

Badulla, 24th June, 1884.

The Thirty-first Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of June 23rd were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) Pedris Appu, (2) Tolenis Appu, (3) W. Morgappa, (4) E. R. Goonewardene, (5) Ran Ettena, (6) E F. Hopkins, (7) Veena Kristnen, (8) A. De Silva, (9) Mutu Banda, (10) Isan Appuhami, (11) Banda Arachile, (12) Ran Menika, (13) Appuhami Arachile, (14) Kirihami, (15) Baba Appu, (16) Anamalai Chetty.

Records of the Minor Courts of Badulla were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Haldummulla on Friday, June 27th, at 1 P.M.

Haldummulla, 27th June, 1884.

The Thirty-second Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of June 24th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) J. H. F. Hamilton, (2) J. D. Bartholomeusz, (3) S. Daundesekere, (4) A. Cassim.

The Commission decided to sit at Balangoda on Monday, June 30th, at 11 A.M.

Balangoda, 30th June, 1884.

The Thirty-third Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of June 27th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) B. P. De Silva, (2) Basseren Hossen, (3) Siny Appu.

Records of the Balangoda Courts and the books of the Police Sergeant were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Rakwana on Wednesday, July 2nd, at 11 A.M.

Rakwana, 2nd July, 1884.

The Thirty-fourth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of June 30th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) Ahamat Camiss, (2) P. D. Asirvadam, (3) G. Hardie.

The Detail Diary of the Police Sergeant was inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Ratnapura on Friday, July 4th, at 11 A.M.

Ratnapura, 4th July, 1884.

The Thirty-fifth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of July 2nd were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) W. D. Tillekeratne, (2) J. De Silva, (3) C. Jansz.

A letter dated June 28th, 1884, from Mr. B Margary, of Rochampton Estate, Haputalé, was read.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and to state that the subject of it will receive the attention of the Commission.

Two letters dated June 16th and June 23rd, from the Colonial Secretary, were read.

Records of the Minor Courts of Ratnapura and Rakwána were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Ratnapura on Saturday, July 5th, at 11 A.M.

Ratnapura, 5th July, 1884.

The Thirty-sixth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of July 4th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) D. J. Jayatilleke, (2) W. D. Tillekeratne, (3) S. Wickremeratne.

The Commission decided to sit at Avisáwélla on Monday, July 7th, at 11 A.M.

Avisawella, 7th July, 1884.

The Thirty-seventh Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

The minutes of July 5th were read and approved.

The evidence of the following witnesses was taken down :—(1) P. De Saram, (2) C. Marshall, (3) J. W. Dias.

Records of the Minor Courts of Avisáwélla were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Colombo on Wednesday, July 9th, at 11 A.M.

Colombo, 9th July, 1884.

The Thirty-eighth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of July 7th were read and approved.

A letter dated July 2nd, from Mr E. F. Hopkins, District Judge of Badulla, asking for a copy of the evidence taken down at Badulla on June 24th, was read.

The Secretary was directed to forward the letter to the Colonial Secretary.

The evidence of Mr. T. W. Hall of Polwatta, was taken down.

The Commission decided to sit at Pasyála on Friday, July 11th, at 11 A.M.

Pasyala, 11th July, 1884.

The Thirty-ninth Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq., in the Chair.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq. | J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of July 9th were read and approved.

The evidence of Mr. N. Parenevitane was taken down.

Records of the Pasyála Courts and the Detail Diary of the Police Sergeant were inspected.

The Commission decided to sit at Colombo on Saturday, July 19th, at 11 A.M.

Colombo, 19th July, 1884.

The Fortieth Sitting of the Commission.

Present

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN in the Chair.

G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of July 11th were read and approved.

A return showing the date of institution, the date of issue of summons, and other particulars in certain Court of Requests and J. P. cases of the Kandy and Kalutara Courts was produced by the Secretary, and considered by the Commission.

The Secretary was directed to complete the return by drawing up similar tables with respect to the first fifteen cases instituted in each of the past three months, (five P. C., five C R., and five J P. cases), in the following courts:—(1) Negombo, (2) Panwila, (3) Urugala, (4) Mátalé, (5) Gampola, (6) Náwalapitiya, (7) Dimbula, (8) Dikoya, (9) Badulla, (10) Haldummulla, (11) Galagedara.

It was decided that each Commissioner should forward to the Secretary, for the consideration of the other Commissioners, the questions which he would like to be discussed at the next meeting, with reference to the abuses which he may think exist, and the remedies he would suggest.

The Commission adjourned *sine die* for the reading and discussion of the report, and it was decided that notice of the next meeting should be given by the Chairman.

Colombo, 6th September, 1884.

The Forty-first Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

J. SINCLAIR, Esq.

The minutes of July 19th were read and approved.

Read a letter from the Colonial Secretary dated 28th July.

Read memorandum from Mr. Williams submitting his views as to the existence of abuses, and suggesting remedies.

The lines on which the report should be drawn up were discussed and agreed to.

The Commission adjourned *sine die.*

Colombo, 30th October, 1884.

The Forty-second Sitting of the Commission.

Present:

Hon J. VANLANGENBERG, Chairman.

Hon P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN. | G. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

F. R. ELLIS, Esq.

Read a letter from Mr. Commissioner Sinclair to His Excellency the Governor, dated 27th September, and which had been transmitted to the Chairman by the Colonial Secretary

Read the draft Report, which, after some discussion and amendments, was approved.

XXIV.—1884.

COLOMBO WATERWORKS.

LETTER

FROM

THE CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER,

FORWARDING

STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE WATERWORKS.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

COLOMBO WATERWORKS.

No. 1.

The Chief Resident Engineer, Colombo Waterworks, to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 140. Colombo, 14th [15th] November, 1884.

Sir,—In reference to your letters Nos. 90 and 96 of the 25th ultimo and of 11th instant, I have the honour to forward the annexed statements of expenditure in connection with the Waterworks, and to submit the following observations.

The expenditure seems naturally to divide itself over two periods—the first period dating from 1877 to March 31st, 1882, when the preliminary expenditure was in progress for the surveys, construction of the Labugama road, the supply of the piping, the preparations of the final drawings and contracts; and the second period dating from March, 1882, onwards, including the expenditure then undertaken for the construction of the works.

I have accordingly prepared the following tabular statements of expenditure:—

Table A., giving expenditure incurred to 31st March, 1882, departmentally.

Table B., giving expenditure incurred to 31st March, 1882, divided under the different heads of the works and contracts then in hand, with analysis giving the English and local expenditure.

From these it will be seen that the expenditure then incurred (to 31st March, 1882) amounted to Rs. 1,817,815·53. Of this sum English payments stood at £123,272 7*s.* 10*d.*, representing the local charge of Rs. 1,472,109·69, while local payments expended in Ceylon amounted to Rs. 345,705·84.

I should state that the Crown Agents' accounts show a small portion of cement charges as incurred at this date, but as these refer only to the future works and are not connected with work previously in hand, I have omitted them in these Tables.

Between March and May, 1882, all the contracts and arrangements for staff, &c., for the expenditure to complete the construction of the Waterworks were practically arranged and settled. I have therefore prepared the

Table C., showing the probable additional expenditure on these arrangements then undertaken to complete the works.

The new contracts were for the valves, &c., the ironworks, &c., and the local works, including the charge for cement. These contracts were estimated at Rs. 1,546,322, and were actually let at Rs. 1,567,725, both amounts including freight and landing charges.

The arrangements then made for salaries, staff, establishment, and other connected matters will have been carried out at about a total of Rs. 278,000 for the three-year contract, and I have therefore included this amount.

There were also then on order, to be delivered under the existing pipe contract, materials amounting to Rs. 80,600.

In the Pipe Yard in Colombo there were materials in charge amounting in value to £118,483, and further materials to come, estimated at £21,221; in all, £139,704. The bulk of these materials were three years in charge before the construction of the works, and the upkeep expenditure on the yard, care of joints, sorting and stacking of pipes, &c., had risen to 600 rupees per month. As this cost is practically part of the permanent maintenance and upkeep charges, which will continue when the materials are in use after construction, I have included this charge for the three years' contract construction time of the works, amounting to Rs. 21,600.

The clearing of the Labugama reservoir from jungle was retained in the hands of Government, and this I have put down at Rs. 10,000.

From the Table C. the amount of expenditure thus entered upon, dating from April, 1882, shows a total of Rs. 1,936,522. The addition of the expenditure then already incurred of Rs. 1,817,815·53, makes the probable total expenditure undertaken for the completion of the works, Rs. 3,754,337·53.

To this amount must be added the difference due to the fall in exchange from 1*s.* 8*d.* per rupee, since September, 1882, which makes an addition of Rs. 10,190 on the English materials.

A further addition has to be made to include the expenditure required for the works additional to those included in the contracts, and for the supply of stock materials since recommended, and other additional charges. The total to be thus added amounts to Rs. 139,309·36. Of this sum about two-thirds are due to recommendations for increased piping in the town; and for this, the fact of the Census 10 years' increase of 15 per cent., or 15,000 persons, gives the reason, the original piping plans being now about eight years old.

Turning now to the present position of the works, I have taken the total expenditure brought to account to 31st August, 1884, and forward the following statements:—

Table D., showing departmentally the expenditure to August 31st, and estimated amount required to complete the works.

Table E., giving the same expenditure as Table D., divided over the different heads, Works and Contracts.

Table F., showing the same expenditure as Tables D. and E., but divided into the English payments and their equivalent in rupees for local account, and the local expenditure in Ceylon.

The total amounts given include the charges for maintenance and the retained fund under the local works contract.

With reference to the English payments, I have received no accounts since April, and have included in the estimate yet to be paid the small amount of materials since received.

With regard to the local works, the estimated work to be done has been checked against the later certificates.

I have in every case estimated what I believed would be a full amount, and have every confidence that the totals given will cover the expenditure, including all the recommendations for work and materials recently submitted.

The three-years' contract time for the completion of the works expires on May 12th, 1885. I have however estimated for all expenses till August, 1885, when I think the works may be practically completed.

The tables show the total expenditure to August 31st, 1884, to be Rs. 3,265,516·56. The estimated amount required to complete is Rs. 635,413·53, making the total amount for the completion of the works Rs. 3,900,929·71.

Referring to the expenditure entered upon on the undertaking of the works here in 1882, as given before in Table C., the probable total amount was then Rs. 3,754,337·53. Adding to this the loss from fall in exchange, Rs. 10,190, and the additional works and materials since included, Rs. 139,309 36, the total amount now should be Rs. 3,903,836·89, as compared with the present estimated total of Rs. 3,900,929·71.

The English payments included in this estimated total expenditure amount to £182,398 4*s.* 5*d.*, equal to Rs. 2,193,290·97 for local accounts, and the local expenditure on works in Ceylon to Rs. 1,707,638·71.

In further explanation I also forward a Table marked G, giving particulars of the expenditure for work additional to the original contracts of 1882, and also a Table marked H. of the contracts undertaken in 1882 for the completion of the works, being those for valves, for ironwork, and for local works, giving the comparison between the estimated contracts, the contracts as let, and the total work to be done, including all recent recommendations.

Taking the total of all these contracts, there will be an excess of Rs. 33,000 on the estimated contracts, and of Rs. 11,500 on the actual contracts, or, deducting additional works, there would be respectively a saving of Rs. 5,500 and a saving of Rs. 26,000, but a further allowance of about Rs. 9,000 must be made in favour of the estimated contracts to meet the fall in exchange since 1882.

In dealing with the English payments throughout the actual exchange has been given for the rupee values up to August 31st, 1884, and the estimated amounts required to complete the works have been calculated at an exchange of 1*s.* 7½*d.* per rupee.

With regard to the recent recommendations submitted for extensions of piping and the provision of stock materials to ensure the full completion and safety in the working of the Main Pipe and City Piping, I further enclose a statement, marked J., giving the details of these recommendations as to cost. I would earnestly beg that the materials required for the actual completion of the works in hand may be ordered and delivered as soon as may be possible.

In conclusion, I would beg to recall attention to the two matters—of the work for the detail distribution of the water by service or stand pipes to the inhabitants, and of the arrangement for the permanent water staff to take over charge and control of the works and water-supply when completed.

The works and expenditure now in hand, and considered in this report, will complete the water scheme from Labugama throughout all the roads and streets of the Municipality. The detail distribution will be a further charge, and I would beg to direct attention to the observations on this matter, and the formation of a permanent staff, contained in my letter to the Consulting Engineer of 28th July, forwarded to you for the information of Government with my letter No. 100 of 6th August last.

I am &c.,

ARTHUR W. BURNETT,
Chief Resident Engineer.

No. 2.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY to the CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER, Colombo Waterworks.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
No. 102. Colombo, 22nd November, 1884.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter No. 140 of the 15th instant, I am directed to acquaint you that the Governor has approved the additional works contemplated, and that instructions will be issued to the Crown Agents accordingly.

I am to request you to furnish me with an estimate of the cost of detail distribution of the water, and with a report on the permanent staff that will be necessary.

I am, &c.,

GEO. T. M. O'BRIEN,
for Colonial Secretary.

A.

Total Accounts to March 31st, 1882.

Description.	Actual Expenditure connected with Waterworks Scheme.	Unexpended Balances returned to Treasury.	Cross Payments.	Total Amount of Accounts.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs cts.	Rs. cts.
Government Agent, Western Province ...	103,138 61	230 57	—	103,369 18
Surveyor-General	7,918 90	62 45	—	7,981 35
Colonial Storekeeper	36,724 76	—	—	36,724 76
Public Works Department ..	197,923 57	—	1,000 0	198,923 57
Crown Agents	1,472,109 69	—	—	1,472,109 60
Total expenditure on Water Scheme to March 31st, 1882, excluding new contracts for completion of works ...	1,817,815 53	293 2	1,000 0	1,819,108 55

B.

Summary of Expenditure to March 31st, 1882.

	Rs. cts.
Purchase of Land, &c	95,302 16
Surveys and Levels	13,928 28
Opening 4 ft road round Labugama Reservoir	2,097 5
Construction of Labugama road	174,955 94
Pipes	1,463,683 26
Pipe-proving Press	5,466 23
Conveying Pipes to Hanwella	3,246 63
Sundries (Salaries, &c)	59,135 98
Total Expenditure—Rs.	1,817,815 53

Analysis.

Crown Agents.	£	s	d.		Rs. cts.
Pipes, &c. ..	117,931	8	10	=	1,409,325 95
Pipe Press	452	14	5	=	5,436 29
Sundries	4,888	4	7	=	57,347 45
English Payments ...	123,272	7	10	=	1,472,109 69
Local Payments	—				345,705 84
Total—Rs.					1,817,815 53

C.

Amount remaining to be expended at date of March 31st, 1882, on the arrangements then made for carrying out the completion of the Works, and probable Total Expenditure.

	Rs. cts
Estimated Contract for Valves, £8,009, including freight, &c , at 1s. 8d. .	96,108 0
Do Ironwork, £6,612 . .	79,344 0
Do. Local works, £137,087, at Rs. 10 per £1, including charge for cement	1,370,870 0
(These Contracts "as let," including all charges, amounted to Rs 1,567,725.)	1,546,322 0
Clearing Labugama Reservoir from jungle, retained in hands of Government (say) ..	10,000 0
Upkeep of Pipe Yard: Rs 600 per month This expenditure for 3 years contract time :—	
Value of materials then in charge £118,488	
Do. to arrive .. ... „ 21,221	21,600 0
£139,709	
Materials under pipe contract on order for delivery, including Freight and Landing, £6,600 at 1s. 8d.	80,600 0
Crown Agents' Miscellaneous Expenditure, Salaries, Loan and Sundries, and Local Staff and Establishment Expenditure as then settled and as since carried out (say) for 3 years :—	
Crown Agents' share (say) £5,000, at 1s. 8d = Rs. 60,000 ...	278,000 0
Local staff, &c. „ 218,000 ...	
Probable expenditure to be incurred after March, 1882	1,936,522 0
Expenditure already incurred	1,817,815 53
Probable Total Expenditure	3,754,337 53
Add—Fall in exchange from 1s. 8d. since September, 1882, average of 1s. 7½d.—	
On 5-6ths Valve Contract ... Rs. 2,000 ...	10,190 0
2-3rds Ironwork .. „ 1,300 ...	
3-4ths Cement, or £ 18,400 ... „ 5,660 ...	
4-5ths Miscellaneous, or £ 4,000 ... „ 1,230 ...	
Rs.	3,764,527 53
Additional work undertaken and recommended since contracts were made, including stock materials	139,309 36
	3,903,836 89
Total expenditure on Works and Estimate, November, 1884	3,900,929 71
Difference —	Rs. 2,907 18

D.

EXPENDITURE brought to Account to August 31st, 1884, and Estimated Expenditure required to complete Works. [*October, November*, 1884.

Department.	Expenditure connected with the construction of the Waterworks.	Advances various	Unexpended Balances returned to the Treasury.	Cross-payments various.	Payments to Treasury to credit of Waterworks, rents, materials, &c	Treasury payments to the Contractors, Messrs Mitchell and Izard.	Total accounts to August 31st, 1884.	Estimated expenditure to complete Waterworks.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts. (per C.R.E.)	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Hon. Government Agent, W.P. . .	103,138 61	—	230 57	—	—	—	103,369 18	—
Hon. Surveyor-General	7,918 90	—	62 45	—	—	—	7,981 35	—
Colonial Storekeeper	36,724 76	—	—	(Cement per C.R E) 5,264 14 (To Govt. Agent W.P) 1,000 0	—	—	41,988 90	—
Public Works Department ...	200,465 28	—	—	—	—	—	201,465 28	—
Chief Resident Engineer, Waterworks ...	204,228 80	606 86	Includes balance in O.B.C 9,837 67	240 4	5,225 16	561,240 0	781,378 53	88,265 39 (per C.R.E.) 435,000 0 (per Treasury on contract)
Crown Agents	2,081,143 21	—	—	—	—	—	2,081,143 21	112,147 76
Total ...	2,633,619 56	606 86	10,130 69	6,504 18	5,225 16	561,240 0	3,217,326 45	635,413 15

Treasury payments for works to Mitchell and Izard	561,240 0	Advances deducted ...	606 86	Retained Fund invested	70,657 0
Retained Fund on do. do. invested by Government	70,657 0	Net credit to Waterworks ...	4,618 30	Total Account ...	3,287,903 45
Total expenditure on works ...	3,265,516 56				
Estimated amount to complete Waterworks...	635,413 15				
Total complete ...	3,900,929 17				

[*For* **E**, *See page* 6.]

F.

SUMMARY of Expenditure on Works to August 31st, 1884, and Estimated Expenditure to complete Works, showing English and Local Payments.

	English Payments.									Local Payments.		
	English Sterling.			Value in Rupees for Local Accounts.			Total to August 31st, 1884.	Estimate to finish.	Total complete.
	Total to August 31st, 1884.	Estimated to finish	Total complete.	Total to August 31st, 1884.	Estimate to finish, at 1s. 7½d	Total complete.			
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Purchase of land and compensation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	96,145 78	1,000 0	97,145 78
Surveys and Levels	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,928 28	—	13,928 28
Four-feet road and clearing at Labugama...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,097 5	10,000 0	12,097 5
Labugama road	—	—	—	—	—	—	185,415 11	4,000 0	189,415 11
Pipes (Stewart and Edington's Contract) ..	125,552 1 8	5,170 0 0	130,722 1 8	1,501,100 7	63,630 77	1,564,730 84	73,500 28	6,000 0	79,500 28
Valves, &c., (Glenfield Contract) ...	6 967 19 6	1,185 0 0	8,122 19 6	85,322 78	14,584 69	99,907 47	573 32	100 0	673 32
Ironworks, &c (Laidlaw Contract) .	5,148 1 2	657 0 0	5,805 1 2	62 876 22	8,086 16	70,962 38	1,188 23	50 0	1,238 23
Pipe-proving Press (Laidlaw Contract) ...	452 14 5	—	452 14 5	5,436 29	—	5,436 29	29 94	—	29 94
Castings, &c Government Factory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,536 86	500 0	3,036 86
Conveying Pipes to Hanwella, P. W. D. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,246 63	—	3,246 63
Cement	23,745 5 8	600 0 0	24,345 5 8	288,973 60	7,384 61	296,358 21	24,594 97	615 39	25,210 36
Local works (Mitchell and Izard Contract)	1,581 19 0	—	1,581 19 0	18,079 41	—	18,079 41	Works 561,240 0 70,657 0 Guarantee Fund	435,000 0	1,066,897 0
Sundries Salaries, Staff, &c. ...	9,868 3 0	1,500 0 0	11,368 3 0	119,354 84	18,461 53	137,816 37	149,219 90	66,000 0	215,219 90
TOTAL ...	173,286 4 5	9,112 0 0	182,398 4 5	2,081,143 21	112,147 76	2,193,290 97	1,184,373 35	523,265 39	1,707,638 74
						Add English Payments ...	2,081,143 21	112,147 76	2,193,290 97
						TOTAL ...	3,265,516 56	635,413 15	3,900,929 71

B.

Summary of Total Expenditure on Works to August 31st, 1884, and Estimated Expenditure to complete.

Description.	Total Amount to August 31st, 1884. Rs. cts.	Estimate to complete. Rs. cts.	Total Amount for Works complete. Rs. cts.
Purchase of land and compensation ...	96,145 78	1,000 0	97,145 78
Surveys and levels	13,928 28	—	13,928 28
Four-feet road and clearing at Labugama ...	2,097 5	10,000 0	12,097 5
Labugama road	185,415 11	4,000 0	189,415 11
Pipes (Stewart and Edington contract) ...	1,574,600 35	69,630 77	1,644,231 12
Valves, &c. (Glenfield contract) ...	85,896 10	14,684 69	100,580 79
Ironworks, &c. (Laidlaw contract) ...	64,064 45	8,136 16	72,200 61
Pipe-proving Press (do.) ...	5,466 23	—	5,466 23
Castings, &c., Government Factory ..	2,536 86	500 0	3,036 86
Conveying Pipes to Hagwella, Public Works Department	3,246 63	—	3,246 63
Cement	313,568 57	8,000 0	321,568 57
Local Works (Mitchell and Izard contract)	649,976 41	435,000 0	1,084,976 41
Sundries—Salaries, Staff, &c. ...	268,574 74	84,461 53	353,036 27
Total ...	3,265,516 56	635,413 15	3,900,929 71

C.

Particulars of Work additional to Contract Works, and beyond that contemplated in March, 1882, when the construction of Works was started.

	Rs. cts.
Labugama Road.—Metalling and Upkeep	14,459 17
Local Staff and sundries for three months extra beyond the three years contract time	16,500 0
Damaged Pipes:	
Cutting and preparing 6,211 73	12,911 73
Extra jointing, &c. 6,700 0	
Testing City Piping	4,200 0

Piping in City.—(15,000 additional population, and stock materials for contingencies.)

	Rs. cts.	
Pipes £5,170 = ...	63,630 77	
Valves £610 = ...	7,507 69	
Landing charges	1,100 0	
Laying and jointing and carting Piping	17,000 0	
Do. Overflow pipe to Lake	2,000 0	91,238 46

Total Additional Works including materials for stock — Rs. 139,309 36

H.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Results of Contracts for Valves, for Ironwork, and for Local Works, commenced 1882. [15th November, 1884.

	Estimated Contracts.			Contracts as Let			Total value of Work to be done under Contracts.	
	£. s. d.	Exchange, 1s. 8d. Rs. cts.		£. s. d.	Actual exchange Rs. cts.		£. s. d.	Actual exchange and 1s. 7½d. on Estimates Rs. cts.
Valves.—Glenfield Co.	8,009 0 0	96,108 0		6,930 0 0	85,800 0		8,123 0 0	100,580 79
Ironwork.—Laidlaw	6,612 0 0	79,344 0		5,552 0 0	69,036 0		5,805 0 0	72,200 61
	14,621 0 0	175,452 0		12,482 0 0	154,836 0		13,928 0 0	172,781 40
***Add*: Fall in exchange to average of 1s. 7½d. per rupee :**								
5-6th Valves	—	2,000 0						
2-3rd Ironwork	—	1,300 0						
		178,752 0						
***Local Works*, including cement**	—	1,370,870 0		...	1,412,989 0		...	1,477,476 41
Cement :							*Deduct* : Cement charge (Rs. 50 per ton) Rs. 390,000 ; broken pipes Rs. 2,500	392,500 0
***Add*: Fall in exchange on 3-4th cement as carried out, on £18,400**	—	5,660 0						1,084,976 41
		1,376,530 0					*Add* : Cement cost ...	321,568 57
								1,406,544 98
Total of the Contracts ...	14,621 0 0	1,555,282 0		12,482 0 0	1,567,825 0		13,928 0 0	1,579,326 38
							Deducting Additional Work to original Contract ...	610 0 0	38,507 69
							Total Work due to original Contracts ...	13,318 0 0	1,540,818 69

NOTE.—Shipping charges included in sterling amounts, and landing, &c., in rupee amounts.

J.

STATEMENT of Estimated Cost of Additional Materials recommended for completion of Piping and Stock Materials in letters of July 28, September 9, and November 17, 1884,—yet to be ordered.

	Pipes—Edington and Stewart.		Valves—Glenfield Co.		Ironwork—Laidlaw & Co.		Total Materials.		Local Expenditure.
	English payment.	Local rupee account.	English payment.	Local rupee account.	English payment.	Local rupee account.	English payment.	Local rupee account.	
Main Pipe Line.	£	Rs. cts.	£	Rs. cts.	£	Rs. cts.	£	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Required to complete works (letter of September 9th) ...	35	430 77	101	1,243 7	45	553 85	181	2,227 69	500 0
Recommended for Stock, (letter, November 17th)	260	3,200 0	137	1,686 15	25	307 69	422	5,193 84	70 0
City Piping.									
Recommended for completion of works and extensions (July 28th)	2,090	25,723 7	122	1,501 54	—	—	2,212	27,224 61	10,625 0
Recommended for Stock (letter of July 28th) ..	872	10,732 30	185	2,276 92	—	—	1,057	13,009 22	180 0
Do. do. Extra stock	613	7,544 61	65	800 0	—	—	678	8,344 61	210 0
Total ...	3,870	47,630 75	610	7,507 68	70	861 54	4,550	55,999 97	11,585 0

XXV.—1884.

RETURN OF IRRIGATION WORKS.

RETURN to an Order of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, dated 17th December, 1884 :

"That a Return be furnished showing the amount expended up to date in repairing or maintaining the Irrigation Works mentioned in the following schedule, from the time specified therein, showing a detailed account of the work done and the sums spent on each head :—

SCHEDULE.

1. Boralęsgamuwa Tank in the Western Province, from 30th June, 1869
2. Openaike Aqueduct in Ratnapura, from 1880.
3. Walalgoḍa Irrigation Channel in Ratnapura, from 1878.
4. Mágalawęwa in Kurunęgala, from 1875."

(Hon. A. L. De Alwis.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

RETURN OF IRRIGATION WORKS.

STATEMENT showing Expenditure on Repairs and Maintenance of certain Irrigation Works.

Service.	Amount expended.	Total.	Remarks.
Boralesgomuwa Tank.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	
Guardian's salary for 7 years, at Rs. 108	756 0	—	—
Expended on urgent repairs to sluices from 1871 to 1884 ...	729 16	1,485 16	The repairs consisted in patching and stopping leaks in the sluicing channels, oiling sluices, clearing out channels, stopping leaks in the bund, repairing the planked platform over channel,—these repairs all spread over 13 years.
Opanaike Aqueduct.			
Tarring	41 46	—	Expended in 1881, Rs. 21·34; in 1882, Rs. 5; in 1883, Rs. 10; and 1884, Rs. 5·12.
Clearing jungle	24 0	—	Expended in 1880, Rs. 10; 1881, Rs. 5; 1882, Rs. 5; and 1884, Rs. 4.
Repairs to aqueduct .	47 50	112 96	Expended in 1880, Rs. 10, and 1883 Rs. 37·50.
Walalgoda Irrigation Channel.			
Guardian's pay	1,089 0	—	—
Repairs to Bungalows, &c. ...	237 50	—	Expended in 1878, Rs. 47·50; 1881, Rs. 50; 1882, Rs. 50; 1883, Rs. 50; and in 1884, Rs. 40
Blasting rock	12 0	—	Expended in 1881, Rs. 12.
Repairs to Headworks ...	346 90	1,685 40	Expended in 1878, Rs. 61·20; 1879, Rs. 32 25; 1880, Rs. 93 28; 1881, Rs. 14·42; 1882, Rs. 48·76; 1883, Rs. 49 05; and 1884, Rs. 47·94.
Mágalawewa.			
Restoring the channel behind the dam	450 28	—	297 cubes of earthwork, at Rs. 1·43 per cube; 2 dry-rubble cross drains, at Rs. 12 50 each.
Surveying and levelling the channel from Redibenda-ela ...	258 32	—	16 miles, channel surveyed and levelled.
Extending the irrigation channel ...	699 92	—	400 cubes earthwork at Rs 1·45 per cube, 2 masonry outlets at Rs. 30 each, and 2 masonry spills at Rs. 30 each.
Construction of inlet and outlet spills	296 91	—	6·75 cubes' masonry inlet and outlet spills, at Rs. 44 per cube.
Completing the extension of the channel	700 0	2,405 43	
	Total ...	5,688 95	

XXVI.—1884.

LETTER

FROM

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF COLOMBO,

FORWARDING

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CEYLON

SUGGESTED BY

THE CHURCH ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

DRAFT ORDINANCE

RELATING TO

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CEYLON.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Colombo to Governor the Hon. A. H. Gordon, G.C.M.G.

Colombo, January 17th, 1885.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge Your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, forwarding copies of the Draft Ordinance for communication to the Church Organization Committee.

I have laid these before that Committee, and have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the following memorandum on the part of the Committee:—

"The Church Organization Committee have received the Draft Ordinance, and have "considered it, and beg to submit the annexed suggestions for amendment. If these suggestions "can be adopted, the Committee believe that the Ordinance will be generally acceptable to the "Church."

Amendments referred to.

Preamble.—Strike out first four lines down to word "Colony," and substitute the first two paragraphs of Ordinance 15 of 1881:—

"Whereas by the Ordinance No. 14 of 1881, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 1 of 1870, intituled 'An Ordinance relating to the Fixed Civil Establishments of this Colony,'" the salaries and allowances payable to the Bishop and other ecclesiastical persons of the Church of England, out of the Colonial Treasury, have been prospectively abolished, and provision has been made for payment from time to time to Trustees for the use of the said Church until the 1st day of July, 1886, of the salaries and allowances payable in respect of offices, which may become vacant before that date:

"And whereas, in consequence of the prospective withdrawal of all State grants to the said Church it has been decided that all the right, title, interest, powers and control of the Government held and exercised in and over all churches, the salaries and allowances in respect of which have been prospectively withdrawn, shall be transferred to trustees, save and except the right, title and interest in the two churches hereinafter mentioned, subject nevertheless, in all respects to the same uses, conditions and limitations, and for the same purposes as the same are now held and exercised by the said Government."

Preamble, line 18.—Before the word "affairs" insert "property and."

Clause 2, *line* 3.—Omit "of the communion of the Church of England in this Colony," and insert instead "members of the Church of England in the Diocese of Colombo."

Clause 2, *at end.*—Add: "Provided that nothing be done at variance with the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England, or that will sever this Diocese of Colombo from the said Church, and that any alteration, which shall by mistake or otherwise effect such severance as aforesaid, shall be null and void."

Clause 3, *line* 1.—After the words "Bishop of Colombo" to insert the words "or his representative duly constituted.

Clause 3.—To end with line two at the word "convention." [The rest of the clause to form a new clause 6 *a.*]

Clause 4, *line* 1.—For "such" read "the first."

Clause 6.—To begin thus: "At the first Synod, Assembly, or Convention."

Clause 6 *a.*—"And after the first meeting, the Synod, Assembly, or Convention shall have," &c., as in the omitted portion of clause 3.

Clause 6 *b.*—"It shall be in the power of such Synod, Assembly, or Convention, having met as described above, afterwards to alter its constitution in any way, provided that no such change be made except with the consent of the Bishop of Colombo for the time being, and also of two-thirds of the whole order of clergy, and two-thirds of the whole order of lay representatives as above described, and provided that nothing be done at variance with the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England or that will sever this Diocese of Colombo from the said Church, and that any alteration which shall by mistake or otherwise effect such severance as aforesaid shall be null and void."

Clause 7, *line* 1.—After "Synod" put "Assembly or Convention."

Clause 7, *line* 22.—Before "Synod" insert "said." After "Synod" insert "Assembly or Convention." Strike out "of the said Church of England."

Clause 7, *line* 24.—After "made" put "thereby." Strike out "by the members of the said Church."

Clause 7, *last line.*—Strike out "upon them" and "section 1 of."

Clause 9, *line* 4.—Strike out "6" and insert "7."

Clause 10.—Omit first four lines and to the word "then" inclusive of the 5th line. Begin the clause "It shall be lawful for."

Clause 10, *line* 5.—Strike out "governing body" and put in "said Synod, Assembly, or Convention."

Clause 10, *line* 7.—After "and" insert words "when vacancies in the See occur."

Clause 10, *line* 10.—After the words "this Ordinance" insert "Ordinance 11 of 1842" and change "15" to "14". Before "doctrine" insert "faith."

I think it right to mention that it was proposed, and the proposal was lost only by a narrow majority, to omit in section 2 the words "which shall be binding upon such persons as have "either directly or indirectly assented thereto."

I have, &c.,

R. S. COLOMBO.

XXVII.—1884.

CEYLON.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LAID BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DURING THE SESSION OF 1884-85.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

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I.—STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE

REVENUE.

	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	£ s. d.
ARREARS OF REVENUE OF FORMER YEARS			
Land Revenue	172925 74		
Licenses	154704 68		
Rents	49150 17		
Taxes	33544 15		
		410324 74	38467 18 10
CUSTOMS.			
Imports	2677363 35		
Plumbago	65826 64		
Warehouse Ren	7545 62		
Sundries	4461 82		
		2754697 43	258252 17 8
PORT AND HARBOUR DUES.			
Port Clearances	26049 89		
Boats and Moorings	2207 25		
Pilotage	43712 0		
Colombo Harbour Dues	378702 73		
Rent of Reclamation Grounds	5376 45		
		456047 82	42754 9 8
LAND SALES.			
Waste Lands	—	264885 42	24833 0 2
LAND REVENUE.			
Paddy	871739 34½		
Fine Grain	51444 31		
Gardens	7634 87		
Tythes redeemed	2367 88		
Rent of Lands	11901 70		
Licenses on Plumbago	4735 70		
Cinnamon, &c.	7 50		
Sundries	1010 12		
		950841 42½	89141 7 8
RENTS, EXCLUSIVE OF LANDS.			
Bridges, Canals, &c.	305632 11		
Government Buildings and Houses	34710 80		
		340342 91	31907 3 0
LICENSES.			
Arrack, Rum, and Toddy	1455187 14		
Stills	20900 0		
Wholesale Dealers in Arrack and Rum	6250 0		
Retail of Salt	44000 0		
Opium	2600 0		
Chanks	3172 82		
Royalty on Elephants	6490 0		
		1538599 96	144243 14 11
STAMPS.			
General	692555 11½		
Composition Duty	49470 10		
		742025 21½	69564 17 3
TAXES	—	35676 46	3344 13 4
POSTAL.			
Postage	223920 25½		
On Letters, etc.	20659 32	244579 57½	22929 6 9
Carried forward	—	7738020 95½	725439 9 3

of the COLONY of CEYLON for the Year 1883.

EXPENDITURE.

	Salaries.		Allowances.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Fixed.	Provisional.			
Civil Establishments.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.
His Excellency the Governor	67745 58	13025 38	—	479 76	81250 72
Secretariat	124476 37	20994 37	—	34491 48	179962 22
Treasury	80050 0	3430 0	754 24	1021 84	85256 8
Audit Office	36450 0	17613 0	—	3606 41	57669 41
PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.					
Western Province	86074 36	53570 21	90 0	2101 55	141836 12
North-Western Province	56503 88	20027 70	360 0	506 79	77398 37
Southern do.	76322 79	26192 80	330 0	1739 89	104585 48
Eastern do.	50099 69	13409 90	—	802 77	64312 36
Northern do.	63760 24	29427 53	—	1766 71	94954 48
Central do.	93039 63	40394 32	—	2670 5	136104 0
North-Central do.	15819 99	19892 90	—	391 77	36104 66
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	175102 0	100945 11	1140 0	2934 25	280121 86
SURVEY DEPARTMENT	63176 94	186746 81	1456 25	—	251380 0
CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.					
Western and North-Western Provinces	50699 30	27943 77	500 0	6051 36	85194 43
Southern Province	13821 74	2611 74	—	1391 61	17855 9
Eastern do.	6390 0	1242 40	—	436 54	8068 94
Northern do.	18520 0	2748 12	—	2822 66	24090 78
HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.					
Master Attendant, Colombo	6474 96	22021 62	1719 67	184 12	30400 37
Do Galle	5490 0	9310 0	—	353 85	15153 85
Do. Trincomalee	400 0	6092 0	—	108 33	6600 83
Do. Batticaloa	—	480 0	—	68 37	548 37
POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH	42038 26	149937 78	1610 0	—	193586 4
DIRECTOR, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS	7580 0	10205 62	—	4950 0	22735 62
DIRECTOR, COLOMBO MUSEUM	-	11379 84	-	8995 50	20375 34
AGENT, COLONIAL STEAMER	-	22938 56	4826 82	-	27265 38
Judicial Establishments.					
Supreme Court, Chief Justice	34526 5	-	-		34526 5
Do. Senior & Junior Puisne Justices	39600 1	—	-	—	39600 1
Registry of the Supreme Court	21148 0	900 0	-	379 21	22427 21
Queen's Advocate and Deputies	49797 21	14013 25	-	336 72	64177 18
DISTRICT COURTS.					
WESTERN PROVINCE.					
Colombo	21100 0	3800 0	-	120 57	25020 57
Kalutara	13397 49	2675 5	-	181 75	16254 29
Kégalla	8740 0	2849 98	-	106 79	11696 77
Negombo	10140 0	2120 0	—	72 44	12632 44
Ratnapura	9830 27	2599 56	—	39 50	12469 33
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.					
Chilaw	8989 80	1800 0	-	42 60	10832 40
Kurunégala	13090 0	3200 0	-	93 19	16383 19
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.					
Galle	19140 0	3620 0	—	183 4	22943 4
Mátara	10436 66	2170 0	—	174 18	12780 84
Tangalla	8915 0	1600 0	—	160 40	10675 40
EASTERN PROVINCE.					
Batticaloa	10739 97	2527 44	—	95 0	13362 41
Trincomalee	3315 0	145 0	—	47 0	3507 0
NORTHERN PROVINCE.					
Jaffna	14460 0	2570 0	—	90 62	17120 62
Manaár	1850 0	500 0	—	44 15	2394 15
Mullaittívu	1066 64	136 68	—	75 0	1278 32
Vavuniya-Vilángkulam	—	1000 0	—	—	1000 0
CENTRAL PROVINCE.					
Badulla	11195 88	1480 64	—	73 75	12750 27
Kandy	20350 0	4500 0	—	111 68	24961 68
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.					
Anurádhapura	2430 68	143 74	—	49 0	2623 42
Carried forward	1424294 39	867292 82	12286 98	80352 70	2384226 89

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward .	—		7738020	95½	725439	9	3
FINES AND FORFEITURES.							
Supreme, District, and Police Courts	42697	85					
Government Agents	951	2					
Other Departments	1970	84					
			45619	71	4276	17	0
GOVERNMENT VESSELS	—		59485	31	5576	15	0
SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.							
Salt	816010	44					
Arrack and Rum	150	40					
Colonial Stores	3162	77					
Timber	203558	30					
Weights and Measures	31	80					
Unserviceable Tools	3117	63					
Produce of Botanical Gardens	3970	35					
Crops growing on Crown Lands	1474	50					
Sundries	1327	12					
			1032803	31	96825	6	2
REIMBURSEMENTS.							
Medical Aid Fund	8063	12					
Hospital Stoppages	11418	82					
Government Gazette, &c.	9460	16					
School Fees, &c.	22416	58					
School Books, Stationery, &c.	6804	18					
Irrigation Works	55753	55½					
Survey Fees	33818	68					
Maintenance of Prisoners in Jails	3727	14½					
Value of Tools lost	1300	45					
Value of Prison Labour	23056	4					
Refund of Civil Hospital expenses	9040	25					
Passage Money of Immigrant Coolies	8730	0					
Collections at Cemeteries	3263	25					
Storage of Gunpowder	1436	0					
Assessment Tax	626	0					
Cost of Police recovered from Municipalities . . .	138478	5					
Sundries	42554	49					
			379946	77	35620	0	3
ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH	—		39236	41	3678	8	3
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.							
Payment on account of deficiency of Troops . . .	70158	33					
Overpayments recovered	153810	1					
Contribution to Widows' Pension Fund	544	50					
Pioneer Pension Contributions	4474	34					
Unclaimed Deposits	8708	19					
Sundries	155442	87½					
			393428	24½	36883	18	0
INTEREST.							
On Loan Board Funds	24619	48					
On Arrears of Revenue	18970	2					
On Investments	164029	72					
			227619	22	21339	6	0
PEARL FISHERY.							
Proceeds of	—		440	28	41	5	6
SPECIAL RECEIPTS.							
Fees for Title Deeds	6456	58					
Sundries	12	76					
			6469	84	606	10	0
RAILWAY RECEIPTS	—		2473508	32	231891	8	1
Carried forward .	—		12396577	87	1162179	8	6

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

	Salaries.		Allowances.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Fixed.	*Provisional.*			
	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.
Brought forward	1424294 39	867292 82	12286 98	80352 70	2384226 89
COURTS OF REQUESTS AND POLICE COURTS.					
WESTERN PROVINCE.					
Avisawella and Pasyala	6240 0	1134 88	—	138 47	7513 35
Colombo Police Court	10450 0	2150 0	—	333 45	12933 45
Do. Court of Requests	10850 0	2060 0	—	69 27	12979 27
Kalutara	—	7296 88	—	106 95	7403 83
Panadure	6339 73	1463 25	—	91 0	7893 98
Balangoda	—	780 0	—	53 82	833 82
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.					
Kalpitiya	6340 0	100 0	—	24 25	6464 25
Kurunegala	—	2040 0	—	80 0	2120 0
Puttalam and Marawila	2331 44	500 0	—	68 76	2903. 20
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.					
Balapitimodara	6442 27	460 0	—	98 37	7000 64
Galle	9840 0	2354 0	—	226 12	12420 12
Hambantota	1020 0	—	—	4 24	1024 24
Matara	5140 0	1541 66	—	152 70	6834 36
NORTHERN PROVINCE.					
Chavakachcheri	1620 0	370 0	—	120 90	2110 90
Jaffna	6507 50	1138 33	—	160 53	7806 36
Kayts	5574 17	1328 87	—	106 35	7009 39
Mallakam	—	870 0	—	159 0	1029 0
Point Pedro	5942 57	270 0	—	81 0	0293 57
EASTERN PROVINCE.					
Batticaloa	—	940 0	—	—	940 0
CENTRAL PROVINCE.					
Dumbula and Dikoya	—	3017 42	—	360 67	3378 9
Galagedara	6560 0	1380 0	—	30 0	7970 0
Gampola and Pussellawa	6440 0	1280 0	—	79 75	7799 75
Haldummulla	5470 0	700 0	—	46 82	6216 82
Kandy	10602 18	1528 37	—	124 25	12254 80
Matale and Dambulla	6290 0	320 0	—	55 15	6665 15
Nawalapitiya	—	6100 0	—	47 97	6147 97
Nuwara Eliya and Maturata	1191 21	1410 0	—	113 73	2717 94
Panwila and Urugala	6840 0	100 0	—	100 0	7040 0
REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT	65818 20	15007 61	34901 75	9677 70	125105 29
FISCALS.					
Western Province	27221 0	10494 0	1110 0	999 56	39814 56
North-Western Province	6216 30	5209 48	210 0	48 27	11714 5
Southern Province	11380 0	7490 0	—	435 35	19305 35
Eastern Province	4540 0	930 0	—	92 68	5562 68
Northern Province	10380 0	5400 0	—	335 73	16115 73
Central Province	17931 80	11199 36	—	235 40	29366 56
North Central Province	910 0	710 0	—	108 61	1728 61
LOAN BOARD	5300 0	—	360 0	170 0	5830 0
ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS	87877 77	1690 0	11350 0	—	100917 77
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION	34425 30	200931 8	—	—	235356 38
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT	83380 16	110420 63	14773 61	4047 59	212622 29
POLICE DEPARTMENT	25440 40	455304 10	2228 97	—	482973 47
PRISONS DEPARTMENT	10650 0	1250 0	—	—	14900 0
CONVICT ESTABLISHMENTS	12895 0	12319 98	—	—	55214 98
COLONIAL STORE	25691 99	5512 26	—	—	31207 25
CEYLON GOVT. RAILWAY	—	491559 83	1599 99	—	493159 82
CROWN AGENTS	—	1266 0	1866 65	—	6132 65
Rs	1982392 68	2282620 14	80717 95	99537 14	4445268 61
£	18849 6 3	213995 14 1	7567 62	9331 12 2	416743 18 8

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs. cts.	£ s. d.
Brought forward .	12396577 87	1162179 3 6
Carried forward .	12396577 87	1162179 3 6

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

Services, exclusive of Establishments.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Total. £ s. d.
Brought forward	—	4445268 61	416743 18 8
PENSIONS AND RETIRED ALLOWANCES.			
Paid in the Colony	193322 93		
Do. England	339999 7		
Do. India	26382 86		
		559705 86	52472 8 6
REVENUE SERVICES.			
Salt	120948 61		
Cinnamon	2218 11		
Grain	57614 57		
Arrack	85 87		
Pearl Fishery	6716 62		
Timber	126786 99		
Assessment	7288 97		
Botanic Gardens	14288 58		
Law Expenses	3303 79		
Commission on Stamps	18225 61		
Do. on collection of Hospital Bills	114 77		
Land Sales	90600 52		
Water Rates	39 93		
Licenses	1407 51		
Tolls	521 47		
Stationery	7338 77		
		457450 69	42886 0 1
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.			
Agents of Provinces	48394 5		
Registrar, Supreme Court	31558 78		
Queen's Advocate	3051 68		
District and Police Courts	16080 33		
Fiscals	98362 93		
		197447 77	18510 14 7
ECCLESIASTICAL	—	3146 5	294 18 9
CHARITABLE ALLOWANCES.			
Agent, Western Province	17271 48		
North-Western Province	1937 44		
Southern do.	11685 0		
Eastern do.	4563 43		
Northern do.	7457 33		
Central do.	3664 50		
		46579 18	4366 16 0
EDUCATION	—	255875 28	23988 6 0
HOSPITALS AND SANITATION.			
Agent, Western Province	3418 64		
North-Western Province	93 3		
Southern do.	3068 50		
Eastern do.	14 75		
Northern do.	7623 98		
Central do.	3937 17		
North-Central do.	157 47		
Principal Civil Medical Officer	389144 85		
Inspector-General of Police	4564 56		
		412022 95	38627 3 0
POLICE SERVICES.			
Inspector-General of Police	—	119162 45	11171 9 7
PRISON SERVICES.			
Agent, Western Province	36678 29		
North Western Province	17951 25½		
Southern do.	38862 72		
Eastern do.	5611 89		
Northern do.	8901 64		
Central do.	61214 39		
North-Central do.	4608 55		
Superintendent of Convict Establishments	151060 46		
Inspector General of Prisons	4798 35		
Government of Straits Settlements	25 43		
Government of India	2155 88		
		332174 85½	31141 7 11
RENT.			
Agents of Provinces	240 0		
Collector of Customs	150 0		
Surveyor-General	1129 98		
Registrar-General	1302 0	2821 98	264 11 2
TRANSPORT.			
His Excellency the Governor	3705 58		
Secretariat	755 24		
Treasury	23806 29		
Audit Office	1484 2		
Agent, Western Province	8827 23		
North-Western Province	5700 92½		
Southern do.	5889 42		
Eastern do.	5135 91		
Northern do.	6982 98		
Central do.	10900 11		
North-Central do.	3883 39		
Carried forward	77071 9½	6831655 67½	640467 14 5

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs cts.	£ s. d.
Brought forward	12396577 87	1162179 3 6
TOTAL . Rs	Rs 12396577 87	£1162179 3 6

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

REVENUE, 1883.—Rs. 2,476,379·56. EXPENDITURE, 1883.—Rs 1,276,800·01.

	Rs	cts	£	s.	d.		Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d
Main Line .	1770881	22	166020	2	3	Main Line	738236	70	69209	13	10
Nawalapitiya Line ...	268441	47	25166	17	1	Nawalapitiya Line	175156	83	16420	19	0
Mâtalé Line	89440	71	8385	1	7	Mâtale Line . .	99157	32	9296	0	0
Coast Line	3611344	15	2 07	5	3	Coast Line . .	256641	33	24060	2	6
Breakwater Line	37779	0	2541	2	6	Breakwater Line	4564	63	427	18	8
Wharf Line	7805	0	743	3	1	Wharf Line	3043	20	285	6	0
Rs	2476379	56	3 169	11	9	Rs	1276800	1	119700	0	0

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

Services exclusive of Establishments—*continued.*	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	**Total.** £ s. d.
Brought forward	77071 9½	6831655 67½	640467 14 5
TRANSPORT—*contd.*			
Survey Department	12161 81		
Customs Department	201 19		
Director, Botanic Gardens	2000 0		
Do. Colombo Museum	2024 58		
Loan Board	60 61		
Registrar-General	1629 71		
		95148 99½	8920 4 4
CONVEYANCE OF MAILS	—	265313 86	24875 19 9
WORKS AND BUILDINGS.			
New Works and Buildings	11202 29		
Alterations and Additions	1669 82		
Repairs	81542 75		
		97414 86	9132 12 11
ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.			
New Roads	6003 55		
Improvements of Roads	1977 4		
Maintenance of Roads	964572 69		
Toll Grants on Minor Roads	30715 93		
New Bridges	1188 95		
Repairs to Bridges	53689 51		
Maintenance of Canals	20412 49		
Irrigation Works, including Maintenance	112489 52		
Departmental Charges	138996 25		
Miscellaneous	68 52		
		1363105 48	127791 2 10
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Colonial Secretary	46151 99		
Treasurer	69207 83		
Agent, Western Province	2287 88		
„ North-Western Province	1554 51½		
„ Southern do.	1136 41		
„ Eastern do.	1336 54		
„ Northern do.	4332 31		
„ Central do.	15004 28		
„ North-Central do.	3278 92		
Surveyor-General	739 59		
Master Attendant	11322 21		
Botanic Gardens	2191 66		
Crown Agents	4257 78		
Government and Agents in India	646 76		
		163448 67½	15323 6 3
INTEREST.			
On Dutch kredit Brieven	1923 84		
On Breakwater Loan	367270 27		
		369194 10	34611 18 11
COLONIAL STORE	—	34721 5	3255 1 11
CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MILITARY EXPENDITURE.			
Regular Troops	1239999 96		
Volunteer Corps	29073 14		
		1269073 10	118975 12 1
GOVERNMENT VESSELS	—	36591 29	3430 14 3
REFUND OF DUTIES, DRAWBACKS, &c.	—	49752 19	4664 5 4
LANDS TAKEN FOR GOVERNMENT PURPOSES	—	3320 44	311 5 10
IMMIGRATION	—	80180 95	7516 9 3½
RAILWAY SERVICES.			
Interest and Sinking Fund, Main Line	76056 0		
Interest, Matale Railway	135509 45		
„ Nanu-oya Railway	192765 8		
Maintenance and Working Expenses	784323 13		
		1488653 66	139561 5 7½
TELEGRAPH SERVICES	—	26161 91	2452 13 7
EXCHANGE	—	48165 1	4513 11 10
TOTAL . Rs		12222234 24½	1145834 9 2
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure		174343 62½	16344 11 4
		12396577 87	1162179 3 6

EXPENDITURE of Unexpended Balances of previous years brought forward in 1883.

Roads, Streets, and Bridges.	Rs. cts.	£ s. d.
New Roads	22,545 83	
Maintenance of Roads ...	24 37	
Repairs to Bridges	1,190 94	
Irrigation Works	1,032 23	
Rs. ...	24,793 37	£2,324 7 7

II.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE REVENUE OF THE COLONY FOR THE YEARS 1882 AND 1883.

	Revenue of 1882.		Revenue of 1883.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
1.—ARREARS OF REVENUE of former years	424501	15	410324	74	—		14176	41
2.—CUSTOMS.								
Imports, &c.	2689203	92	2689370	79	166	87	—	
Royalty on Plumbago	61248	86	65326	64	4077	78	—	
3.—PORT AND HARBOUR DUES.								
Port Clearances	113663	72	26049	39	—		87614	33
Boats and Moorings	3183	75	2207	25	—		976	50
Pilotage	42939	0	43712	0	776	0	—	
Harbour Dues and Rent of Grounds	—		384079	18	384079	18	—	
4.—LAND SALES.								
Waste Lands	271250	5½	264885	42	—		6364	63½
Cinnamon Gardens	—		—		—		—	
5.—LAND REVENUE.								
Paddy	746230	87½	871739	34½	125508	47	—	
Fine Grain	48284	44	51444	31	3159	87	—	
Gardens	6454	13	7634	87	1180	74	—	
Tythes redeemed	2822	39	2367	88	—		454	51
Rent of Lands	14498	59	11901	70	—		2596	89
Royalty on Cabook	13	63	—		—		13	63
Licenses on Plumbago	2585	57	4735	70	2150	13	—	
Cinnamon	28	50	7	50	—		21	0
Sundries	1085	06	1010	12	—		74	94
6.—RENTS, EXCLUSIVE OF LANDS.								
Bridges, Canals, &c.	347745	96	305632	11	—		42113	85
Government Buildings and Houses	35487	66	34710	80	—		776	86
7.—LICENSES.								
Arrack, Rum, and Toddy	1477952	88	1455187	14	—		22765	74
Stills	19100	0	20900	0	1800	0	—	
Wholesale dealers	600	0	6250	0	5650	0	—	
Retail of Salt	41030	0	44000	0	2970	0	—	
Opium	2500	0	2600	0	100	0	—	
Chanks	5489	23	3172	82	—		2316	41
Royalty on Elephants	1000	0	6490	0	5490	0	—	
8.—STAMPS.								
General	743447	46	692555	11½	—		50892	34½
Composition Duty	53970	6	49470	10	—		4499	96
9.—TAXES.								
Assessment on Houses	31308	36	35676	46	4368	10	—	
10.—POSTAL.								
Postage Stamps	221213	12½	223920	25½	2707	13	—	
Do. Collections on Letters, &c.	20702	25	20659	32	—		42	93
11.—FINES AND FORFEITURES.								
Supreme, District, and Police Courts	45329	65	42697	85	—		2631	80
Government Agents	237	32	951	2	713	70	—	
Other Departments	25271	26	1970	84	—		23300	42
12.—GOVERNMENT VESSELS	54668	37	59485	31	4816	94	—	
Carried over	7555044	22½	7843125	97½	549714	91	261023	22

	Revenue of 1882.		Revenue of 1883.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
Brought forward -	7555044	22½	7843125	97½	549714	91	261023	22
13.—SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.								
Salt - - -	827125	99	816010	44	—		11115	55
Arrack and Rum - -	166	40	150	40	—		16	0
Colonial Store - -	14568	87	3162	77	—		11406	10
Timber - - -	141975	14	203558	30	61583	16	—	
Weights and Measures - -	121	1	31	80	—		89	21
Unserviceable Tools - -	3834	79	3117	63	—		717	16
Produce of Botanic Gardens -	3653	25	3970	35	317	10	—	
Crops growing on Crown Lands -	1343	89½	1474	50	130	60½	—	
Sale of Delft Horses - -	—		—		—		—	
Incidental - - -	1679	13	1327	12	—		352	1
14.—REIMBURSEMENTS.								
Medical Aid Fund - -	—		8063	12	8063	12	—	
Hospital Stoppages - -	3258	28	11418	82	8160	54	—	
Government Gazette - -	8939	58	9460	16	520	58	—	
School Fees, Books, Stationery, &c. -	27554	65½	29220	76	1666	10½	—	
Irrigation Works - -	34575	37½	33818	68	—		756	69½
Survey Fees - -	52827	32	55753	55½	2926	23½	—	
Maintenance of Prisoners -	2811	94	3727	14½	915	20½	—	
Value of Tools lost - -	6016	56	1300	45	—		4716	11
Value of Prison Labour - -	15074	66	23056	4	7981	38	—	
Refund of Civil Hospital expenses -	11602	25	9040	25	—		2562	0
Passage Money of Immigrant Coolies -	11709	25	8730	0	—		2979	25
Collections at Cemeteries -	3067	35	3263	25	195	90	—	
Storage of Gunpowder - -	1452	44	1436	0	—		16	44
Assessment Tax - -	1197	49	626	0	—		571	49
Cost of Police within Municipalities -	111661	6	138478	5	26816	99	—	
Incidental - - -	50491	81	42554	49	—		7937	32
15.—MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.								
Deficiency of Troops - -	—		70458	33	70458	33	—	
Overpayments recovered - -	268608	57¾	153810	1	—		114798	56¾
Contribution to Widows' Pension Fund	1225	10	544	50	—		680	60
Pioneer Pension Contribution -	6213	30	4474	34	—		1738	96
Unclaimed Deposits - -	28239	28	8708	19	—		19531	9
Incidental - - -	51595	10½	155432	87½	103837	77	—	
16.—INTEREST.								
On Loan Board Funds - -	24320	80	24619	48	298	68	—	
On Arrears of Revenue - -	25599	2	18970	2	—		6629	0
On Investments - -	163505	67	184029	72	20524	5	—	
17.—PEARL FISHERY - -	629	44	440	28	—		189	16
18.—SPECIAL RECEIPTS.								
Fees for Title Deeds - -	6934	39	6456	58	—		477	81
Incidental - - -	15	91	12	76	—		3	15
19.—RAILWAY RECEIPTS -	2638493	4	2473508	32	—		164984	72
20.—TELEGRAPH RECEIPTS -	54437	67	39236	41	—		15201	26
Rs	12161570	2¼	12396577	87	864110	66	628492	87¼
£	1140147	3 9½	1162179	3 6	—			
Deduct Decrease Rs					628492	87¼		
Nett Increase ... Rs					235617	78¾		
£					22089	3 4		

[*continued over.*]

REMARKS.

No. 1.—Arrears of Revenue. The decrease is chiefly in the arrears due for years prior to 1882 and recoverable in the Central Province. The decrease in the recoveries made in 1883 in that Province amounts to Rs. 56,802. and is accounted for by the large amount recovered in 1882; so that the amount outstanding was proportionately reduced. In the other Provinces the recoveries in 1883 have been so large as to reduce the decrease to the nett sum of Rs. 14,176·41.

„ 2.—Customs. The increase is owing to the exportation of a larger quantity of plumbago than in the preceding year.

„ 3.—Port and Harbour Dues. The increase under this head of receipt is caused entirely by the new harbour dues levied in the port of Colombo under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875.

„ 4.—Land Sales. The falling off in the extent of land sold in 1883 caused the decrease under this head.

„ 5.—Land Revenue. The increase under the head "Paddy" is owing to good crops harvested in the Northern, North-Central, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces, and also to the large collections made on account of paddy commutation in the Western and Southern Provinces. The increase under the head "Fine Grain" is chiefly owing to a larger area of chena cultivation in the Hambantota District, and under the head "Licenses on Plumbago" to the greater activity in the plumbago trade. The decrease on rents of lands is owing to the rents having realized less than in the preceding year.

„ 6.—Rents, exclusive of Land. The sale of Toll Rents for 1883 realized a smaller amount than in the preceding year, which accounts for the decrease under this head. There has also been a decrease in the rent of houses, caused by the removal of the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Maritimes offices from Galle, and consequent loss of rent.

„ 7.—Licenses. The decrease under the head "Arrack, Rum and Toddy" is due to the sales for 1883-84 having realized less than for the preceding year, and that under "Chanks" to some depression in the chank trade. The increase under the head "Stills," "Wholesale dealers," "Retail of Salt" and "Opium" is due to a larger number of applications made for licenses.

„ 8.—Stamps. The prevailing general depression in the Island trade and industries continue to affect the receipts under this head.

„ 9.—Taxes. The collections under this head were larger in 1883, owing to prompt recoveries.

„ 10.—Postal. There has been a small increase under this head, which speaks for itself.

„ 11.—Fines and Forfeitures. This apparent decrease in 1883 is because in 1882 a large sum was brought to account under this head as forfeiture for the non-fulfilment by the Jaffna and Batticaloa Agricultural Company of their agreement with Government.

„ 12.—Government Vessels The cause of increase may be attributed to the Colonial Steamer having worked without any interruption during the year.

„ 13.—Sale of Government Property. There has been a diminution in the sale of Salt in the Eastern Province owing to short supply, and in the Hambantota District owing to unfavourable weather for dhonies calling at that port; this has in a great measure been compensated for by large sales in the Northern and North-Western Provinces, which reduced the nett decrease to Rs. 11,115·55. The large demand for Timber, both for public works and private use, and the better prices realized for it, have contributed to swell the receipts under this head. The decrease under the head "Colonial Stores" is owing to the alteration introduced in 1883 in the supply and payment of stationery to Public Departments. The other items of receipts are casual and fluctuating.

„ 14.—Reimbursements. The receipts under this head are fluctuating. The principal items of increase in 1883 are refunds on account of Medical Aid to Planting Districts, Hospital Stoppages, value of Prison Labour, and cost of Police within the Municipality. The increase in the last named item is only apparent, as it includes the arrears due for the previous year. The decrease in passage money of Immigrant Coolies is caused by the falling off in the number of immigrants resorting to the Island as agricultural labourers. The other items of decrease are casual and require no remarks.

„ 15.—Miscellaneous Receipts. The increase under the head "Deficiency of Troops" is because no corresponding receipt was brought to credit in the preceding year, and under the head "Incidental" because a large amount was transferred to revenue as overplus from the Railway Sinking Fund. The other items are casual and fluctuating, and need hardly call for remarks

„ 16.—Interest. The interest charged on the advances made from the cash balance of the Colony for the Breakwater Works was recovered from Harbour funds and credited to General Revenue under this head, and hence the increase

„ 17.—Pearl Fishery. The apparent decrease is the amount paid in 1882, in advance, of purchase money of rent for the privilege of fishing for pearls in the Tampalákam Bay in the Trincomalee District.

„ 19.—Railway Receipts. The stagnation of the trade and industries of the Island, chiefly owing to the decline in the coffee enterprise, continue to affect the receipts under this head.

„ 20.—Telegraph Receipts. The same causes have apparently affected the receipts under this head.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

III.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE EXPENDITURE OF THE COLONY OF CEYLON FOR THE YEARS 1882 AND 1883.

		Expenditure of 1882.		Expenditure of 1883.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING FIXED AND PROVISIONAL SALARIES, ALLOWANCES, AND OFFICE CONTINGENCIES.								
	CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
1	His Excellency the Governor -	94427	91	81250	72	—		13177	19
2	Secretariat - -	191352	72	179962	22	—		11390	50
3	Treasury - -	35498	35	35256	0	—		242	27
4	Audit Office - -	57475	77	57669	41	193	64	—	
	PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.								
5	Western Province - -	142621	0	141836	12	—		787	88
6	North-Western Province - -	77471	20½	77398	37	—		72	83½
7	Southern do. - -	109571	17	104585	48	—		4985	99
8	Eastern do. - -	64145	65	64312	36	166	71	—	
9	Northern do. - -	100186	10	94954	48	—		5231	62
10	Central do. - -	143774	19	136104	0	—		7670	19
11	North-Central do. - -	40523	61	36104	66	—		4418	95
12	Public Works Department -	292483	24	280121	36	—		12361	88
13	Survey Department - -	257586	21	251380	0	—		6206	21
14	Customs Department - -	146310	93	135209	24	—		11101	69
15	Harbour Department - -	49235	72	52703	42	3467	70	—	
16	Postal and Telegraph Department -	195198	74	193586	4	—		1612	70
17	Royal Botanic Gardens -	20175	56	2 735	62	2260	6	—	
18	Colombo Museum -	16323	45	20375	34	4051	89	—	
19	Agent, Colonial Steamer "Serendib" -	27899	98	27265	38	—		634	60
	JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.								
20	Supreme Court Judges - -	59712	58	74126	6	14413	48	—	
21	Registry of the Supreme Court -	22011	53	22127	21	115	68	-	
22	Queen's Advocate and Deputies -	64561	10	64177	18	—		383	92
	DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.								
23	Western Province - -	128963	28	127631	10	—		1332	18
24	North-Western Province - -	38794	12	38703	1	—		91	38
25	Southern do. - -	74394	18	73678	64	1284	46	—	
26	Eastern do. - -	18659	32	17809	41	—		849	91
27	Central do. - -	99786	55	97902	47	—		1884	8
28	Northern do. - -	46263	9	46042	31	—		220	78
29	North-Central do. - -	3023	84	2623	42	—		400	42
30	Registration Department - -	131616	37	125405	29	—		6211	8
	FISCALS.								
31	Western Province - -	39942	95	39824	56	—		118	39
32	North-Western Province - -	11764	92	11714	5	—		50	87
33	Southern do. - -	19430	97	19305	35	—		125	62
34	Eastern do. - -	5 39	12	5562	68	223	56	-	
35	Northern do. - -	15636	55	16115	73	479	18	—	
36	Central do. - -	29911	47	29366	56	—		544	91
37	North-Central do. - -	1829	75	1728	64	—		101	11
38	Loan Board - - -	5785	67	5830	0	44	33	—	
39	Ecclesiastical Establishments -	98693	7	100917	77	2224	70	—	
40	Public Instruction - -	237420	48	235356	38	—		2064	10
41	Medical Department - -	219276	30	212622	29	—		6654	1
42	Police Department - -	489017	3	482973	47	—		6043	56
43	Prisons Department - -	14899	95	14900	0	0	5	—	
44	Convict Establishment - -	55068	99	55214	98	145	99	—	
45	Colonial Store - -	30101	1	31207	25	1106	24	—	
46	Ceylon Government Railway -	507338	59	493159	82	—		14178	77
47	Crown Agents - -	5598	99	6132	65	533	66	—	
	Rs	4535706	87½	4445268	61	30711	33	121149	59½
	£	425222	10 5	416743	18 7½	2879	3 9	11357	15 6½

[continued over.]

		Expenditure of 1882.		Expenditure of 1883.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	SERVICES, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
48	Pensions and Retired Allowances -	504037	17	559705	86	5668	69	—	
49	Revenue Services - -	473211	5	457450	69	—		15760	36
50	Administration of Justice - -	210501	19½	197447	77	—		13053	42½
51	Ecclesiastical - -	3192	24	3146	5	—		46	19
52	Charitable Allowances - -	46183	18	46579	18	396	0	—	
53	Education - -	272514	84	255875	28	—		16639	56
54	Hospitals and Sanitation - -	327384	48	412022	95	84638	47	—	
55	Police Services - -	126616	43	119162	45	—		4453	98
56	Prison Services - -	357027	10	332174	85½	—		24852	24½
57	Rent - -	2897	35	2821	98	—		75	37
58	Transport - -	90946	79½	95148	99½	4202	20	—	
59	Conveyance of Mails - -	252631	4	265343	86	12712	82	—	
60	Works and Buildings - -	126600	19	97414	86	—		29185	33
61	Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals -	1474035	5	1363105	48	—		110929	57
62	Miscellaneous Services - -	201353	86	163448	67½	—		37905	18½
63	Interest - - -	211516	31	369194	10	157677	79	—	
64	Redemption of Kredit Brieven -	—		—		—		—	
65	Colonial Store - -	30376	83	34721	5	4344	22	—	
66	Contribution towards Military Expenditure - - -	1267620	1	1269073	10	1453	9	—	
67	Government Vessels - -	49819	72	36594	29	—		13225	43
68	Refund of Duties, Drawbacks, &c. -	52778	34	49752	19	—		3026	15
69	Lands taken for Government purposes -	15825	0	3320	44	—		12504	56
70	Immigration - - -	93201	68	80180	95	—		13020	73
71	Railway Services - -	1629534	89	1488653	66	—		140881	23
72	Electric Telegraph - -	111740	8	26161	91	—		85578	17
73	Exchange - -	30412	54	48465	1	18052	47	—	
	Rs	7958957	37	7776965	63½	339145	75	521137	48½
	£	746152	5 1	729090	10 7	31794	18 3	48856	12 9
	RECAPITULATION.								
	Establishments - -	4535706	87½	4445268	61	30711	33	121149	59½
	Services, exclusive of Establishments -	7958957	37	7776965	63½	339145	75	521137	48½
	Rs	12494664	24½	12222234	24½	369857	8	642287	8
	TOTAL—£	1171374	15 6	1145854	9 2½	34674	2 0	60214	8 3½

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE FOREGOING.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
1.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries - - -	10799	29				
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -	2401	48				
			13200	77		
Increase in Office Contingencies - - -			23	58		
Nett Decrease -					13177	19
2.—SECRETARIAT.						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries - -			7370	60		
Do. Provisional Salaries - -			1278	14		
Do. Office Contingencies - -			2741	76		
Gross Decrease -					11390	50
3.—TREASURY.						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries - - -	30	0				
Do. Allowances - - -	224	92				
			254	92		
Increase in Office Contingencies - - -			12	65		
Nett Decrease -					242	27
4.—AUDIT OFFICE.						
Increase in Office Contingencies - - -			—		193	64
PROVINCIAL AGENCIES :—						
5.—*Western Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries - - -	952	12				
Do. Office Contingencies - - -	355	14				
			1307	26		
Increase in Provisional Salaries - - -			519	38		
Nett Decrease -					787	88

	Rs cts.	Rs cts.	Rs cts.
6.—*North-Western Province.*			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries	2 47		
Do. Provisional Salaries	124 99		
		127 46	
Increase in Office Contingencies	-	54 62½	
Nett Decrease			72 83½
7.—*Southern Province.*			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		1361 50	
Do. Provisional Salaries		3463 14	
Do. Allowances		75 0	
Do. Office Contingencies		86 35	
Gross Decrease			4985 99
8.—*Eastern Province.*			
Increase in Fixed Salaries	163 36		
Do. Office Contingencies	141 63		
		304 99	
Decrease in Provisional Salaries		138 28	
Nett Increase			166 71
9.—*Northern Province.*			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		1621 64	
Do. Provisional Salaries		2442 95	
Do. Allowances		500 0	
Do. Office Contingencies		467 3	
Gross Decrease			5231 62
10.—*Central Province.*			
Decrease in Provisional Salaries	7546 33		
Do. Office Contingencies	329 72		
		7876 5	
Increase in Fixed Salaries		205 86	
Nett Decrease			7670 19
11.—*North-Central Province.*			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		148 92	
Do. Provisional Salaries		4168 39	
Do. Office Contingencies		101 64	
Gross Decrease			4418 95
12.—Public Works Department.			
Decrease in Provisional Salaries		20613 95	
Increase in Fixed Salaries	7742 28		
Do. Office Contingencies	509 79		
		8252 7	
Nett Decrease			12361 88
13.—Survey Department.			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		4122 59	
Do. Provisional Salaries		1783 62	
Gross Decrease			6206 21
14.—Customs Department.			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		13421 10	
Increase in Provisional Salaries	1842 37		
Do. Office Contingencies	477 4		
		2319 41	
Nett Decrease			11101 69
15.—Harbour Department.			
Increase in Provisional Salaries	4170 72		
Do. Allowances	623 67		
		4794 39	
Decrease in Fixed Salaries	522 79		
Do. Office Contingencies	793 90		
		1316 69	
Nett Increase			3467 70
16.—Postal and Telegraph Department.			
Decrease in Fixed Salaries		3299 45	
Increase in Provisional Salaries	1456 75		
Do. Allowances	230 0		
		1686 75	
Nett Decrease			1612 70
17.—Royal Botanic Gardens.			
Increase in Fixed Salaries	125 35		
Do Office Contingencies	2350 56		
		2475 91	
Decrease in Provisional Salaries		215 85	
Nett Increase			2260 6
18.—Colombo Museum.			
Increase in Office Contingencies		—	4051 89
19.—Colonial Steamer "Serendib."			
Decrease in Provisional Salaries		705 44	
Increase in Office Contingencies		70 84	
Nett Decrease			634 60

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.						
20.—Supreme Court.						
Increase in Fixed Salaries			—		14413	48
21.—Registrar, Supreme Court.						
Increase in Office Contingencies			141	17		
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			25	49		
Nett Increase					115	68
22.—Queen's Advocate.						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries	2856	73				
Do Office Contingencies	54	92				
			2911	65		
Increase in Fixed Salaries			2527	73		
Nett Decrease					383	92
District Courts, Police Courts, and Courts of Requests.						
23.—*Western Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries	600	92				
Do. Provisional Salaries	761	50				
			1362	42		
Increase in Office Contingencies			30	24		
Nett Decrease					1332	18
24.—*North-Western Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries	77	87				
Do. Office Contingencies	34	42				
			112	29		
Increase in Provisional Salaries			20	91		
Nett Decrease					91	38
25.—*Southern Province*						
Increase in Fixed Salaries	5642	71				
Do. Contingencies	230	54				
			5873	25		
Decrease in Provisional Salaries			4588	79		
Nett Increase					1284	46
26.—*Eastern Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			660	70		
Do. Provisional Salaries			155	90		
Do. Office Contingencies			27	31		
Gross Decrease					849	91
27.—*Central Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			609	73		
Do Provisional Salaries			1264	88		
Do. Office Contingencies			9	47		
Gross Decrease					1884	8
28.—*Northern Province.*						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries	16	12				
Do. Office Contingencies	218	88				
			235	0		
Increase in Fixed Salaries			14	22		
Nett Decrease					220	78
29.—*North-Central Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			219	30		
Do. Provisional Salaries			139	62		
Do. Office Contingencies			41	50		
Gross Decrease					400	12
30.—Registration Department.						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries	601	73				
Do. Provisional Salaries	367	38				
Do. Allowances	5280	50				
			6249	61		
Increase in Office Contingencies			38	58		
Nett Decrease					6211	8
Fiscals.						
31.—*Western Province.*						
Decrease in Office Contingencies			225	99		
Increase in Fixed Salaries	93	23				
Do. Provisional Salaries	13	72				
Do. Allowances	0	65				
			107	60		
Nett Decrease					118	39
32.—*North-Western Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			16	86		
Do. Provisional Salaries			7	85		
Do. Office Contingencies			26	16		
Gross Decrease					50	87
33.—*Southern Province.*						
Decrease in Office Contingencies			—		125	62

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
34.—*Eastern Province.*						
Increase in Fixed Salaries			228	45		
Decrease in Office Contingencies			4	89		
Nett Increase					223	56
35.—*Northern Province.*						
Increase in Provisional Salaries			480	8		
Decrease in Office Contingencies			0	90		
Nett Increase					479	18
36.—*Central Province.*						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			260	20		
Do. Provisional Salaries			61	62		
Do. Office Contingencies			223	9		
Gross Decrease					544	91
37.—*North-Central Province.*						
Decrease in Office Contingencies			—		101	11
38.—Loan Board.						
Increase in Office Contingencies			—		44	33
39.—Ecclesiastical.						
Increase in Fixed Salaries			974	70		
Do. Provisional Salaries			30	0		
Do. Office Contingencies			1220	0		
Gross Increase					2224	70
40.—Public Instruction.						
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			4366	17		
Increase in Provisional Salaries			2302	7		
Nett Decrease					2064	10
41.—Medical Department.						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries	6215	82				
Do. Allowances	1361	85				
Do. Office Contingencies	530	52				
			8108	19		
Increase in Fixed Salaries			1454	18		
Nett Decrease					6654	1
42.—Police Department.						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries	7359	22				
Do. Allowances	571	3				
			7930	25		
Increase in Fixed Salaries			1886	69		
Nett Decrease					6043	56
43.—Prisons Department.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			—		0	5
44.—Convict Establishment.						
Increase in Provisional Salaries			156	50		
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			10	51		
Nett Increase					145	99
45.—Colonial Store.						
Increase in Provisional Salaries			1128	83		
Decrease in Fixed Salaries			22	59		
Nett Increase					1106	24
46.—Ceylon Government Railway.						
Decrease in Provisional Salaries			13645	44		
Do. Office Contingencies			533	33		
Gross Decrease					14178	77
47—Crown Agents, London.						
Increase in Allowances			—		533	66

48.—Pensions.—The addition of new pensioners and the unfavourable rates of exchange which prevailed during last year, as compared with the rates of the preceding year, contributed to increase the expenditure on this head.

49.—Revenue Services. The decrease is attributed to the smaller quantity of salt manufactured in 1883 than in the preceding year.

50.—Administration of Justice.—The expenditure in 1883 in connection with the Supreme Court has been greater than in the preceding year owing to protracted sessions. There has also been heavier expenditure in connection with minor courts.

51.—Ecclesiastical.—The small decrease under this head hardly calls for any remark.

52.—Charitable Allowances.—The failure of crop at Udakinda and the damage done by floods in the Western Province rendered it necessary to grant relief to distressed villagers. This has caused a small increase in the expenditure under this head.

53.—Education.—The payments made to Grant-in-Aid Schools in 1883 is less than in the preceding year and hence the decrease.

54.—Hospitals and Sanitation.—The cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance is included in the expenditure under this head, andthis accounts for the increase.

55.—Police Services.—The reduction under this head is owing to no expenditure having been incurred in 1883 for uniforms.

56.—Prison Services.—The decrease is due principally to the reduction of expenditure for victualling prisoners, more favorable contracts having been obtained for 1883 than for the previous year. There has also been a reduction in the cost of clothing and bedding, &c.

57.—Rent.—The decrease is so small as hardly to call for observation.

58.—Transport.—The increase is caused by larger expenditure incurred in 1883 for passages of public officers than in 1882.

59.—Conveyance of Mails.—The increase is caused by the payment in 1883 of claims for loss on sea conveyance of Mails for the years 1880 to 1883.

60 & 61.—Works and Buildings; Roads, Streets, and Bridges.—The expenditure sanctioned for 1883 was less than that for the preceding year; the actual expenditure under these heads is therefore proportionately less.

62.—Miscellaneous Services.—The expenditure in 1882 for Elephant kraal, Melbourne Exhibition, and for the Lepidoptera did not recur in 1883, and this accounts for the diminution of expenditure.

63.—Interest.—The interest charged to Harbour revenue for advances made to the Breakwater from the cash-balance of the Colony, and that paid on advances obtained by the Crown Agents from London Banks to cover payment on account of the Colombo Waterworks, pending the issue of a loan for those works, is included as expenditure under this head, and this accounts for the increase.

65.—Colonial Store.—The increase in the expenditure is caused by the purchase of horses for Mounted Orderlies and of furniture for office use, also by repairs &c., to furniture in the judges' quarters, Kandy.

66.—Contribution towards Military Expenditure.—Increased expenditure was incurred on account of the Ceylon Volunteers.

67.—Government Vessels.—No expenditure was needed for repairs to the Colonial Steamer in 1883, and hence the decrease.

68.—Refund of Duties, Drawbacks, etc.—This is a fluctuating expenditure, resulting in 1883 in a diminution of expenditure.

69.—Lands taken for Government Purposes.—The same remark as the foregoing applies to this head.

70.—Immigration.—The reduction of expenditure is consequent upon the falling off in the number of immigrants from Southern India.

71.—Railway Services.—The falling off of traffic owing to the depression in the coffee enterprise contributed to reduce the expenditure proportionately. The final payment on the loan for the Main Line became due for only one half-year instead of for two as in the preceding year; this has also caused a reduction in the expenditure.

72.—Electric Telegraph.—In 1882 compensation was paid to the Government of India for loss in working the Ceylon Lines; no such payment was required in 1883, hence the apparent decrease.

73.—Exchange.—The increase in the expenditure under this head is partly owing to bills having been drawn on the Crown Agents, and partly to the rates ruling during this year having been less favourable than in the preceding one.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1883.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

IV.—STATEMENT showing the ASSETS and LIABILITIES of the Government of Ceylon on the 31st December, 1883.

ASSETS.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
Cash in the hands of the Crown Agents	334253	2					
Cash in the General Treasury and District Chests	1237679	63¾					
			1571932	65¾			
Invested in England on Colonial Stocks	533197	44					
In deposit in the Bank of England	1528662	38					
Advances to the Crown Agents to be recovered	24458	60					
			2086318	42			
Recoverable advances on account of Colombo Waterworks	888225	27					
Do. do. Seed Paddy	9477	31					
Do. do. General Stores	744220	70					
Do. do. Colombo Harbour Works	692525	89					
Do. do. Railway Extension	44480	93					
Do. do. Industrial School, Kandy	9900	0					
Do. do. Mátalé Railway	167214	12					
Do. do. Ceylon Volunteers	18900	0					
Do. do. Board of Trade	38653	29					
Do. do. Egyptian Exiles	4152	67					
Other recoverable advances	91726	16					
			2709476	34			
Advance by the Crown Agents on account of Nánu-oya Railway	—		308114	34			
Sundry payments by the Crown Agents to be recovered	—		15944	64			
Due by the Agents, Madras	1946	24					
Do. by the Government of Mauritius	12	50					
			1958	74			
Do. by the Municipal Council, Kandy, on account principal	241846	45					
Do. do. do. interest	19250	18					
			261096	63			
Recoverable arrears of revenue	—		538800	0			
Surcharges outstanding	—		150000	0			
Total of Assets			7643641	76¾	716591	8	4

LIABILITIES.							
Deposits—General	5,763,577	26½					
Lapsed Loan Board	86,497	30					
			5850074	56½			
Drafts and Remittances			252381	99½			
Due to Government of India			310801	36			
Do. Agents, Calcutta			63	94			
Do. Agents, Bombay			75	35			
Do. Government of the Straits Settlement			3	84			
Temporary advances from the Local Banks			6411	17			
Family Remittances outstanding			30838	77			
Sums payable by the Crown Agents on account of the Colony			10501	71			
Unexpended balances of ordinary votes brought forward for expenditure in 1884			51604	0			
Unexpended balances of votes on Surplus Funds Ordinance, No. 13 of 1879 brought forward			117043	93.			
Total Liabilities			—		6629800	63	621544	6	2
Excess of Assets over Liabilities			—		1013841	13¾	95047	2	2

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

V.—STATEMENT OF THE CASH TRANSACTIONS OF THE COLONY FOR THE YEAR 1883.

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
To Balance on the 31st December, 1882	1,218,304	85¼	114,216	1	7
Gross Revenue for the year 1883	12,396,577	87	1,162,179	3	6
Drafts drawn during the year	8,960,626	11½	840,058	13	11½
Deposits during the year	9,155,007	94	858,281	19	10½
Remittances received	3,359,024	44	314,908	10	10
Advances repaid	9,504,029	72	891,002	15	9
Sums placed to the credit of Her Majesty's Government	399	61	37	9	3
Do. Government of India	208,005	32	19,500	10	0
Do. Straits Government	965	0	90	9	5
Do. Agents at Calcutta	522	0	48	18	9
Do. Agents at Bombay	316	92	29	14	2
Do. Agents at Madras	7,059	79	661	17	1½
Do. Crown Agents	4,067,401	28	381,318	17	5
Receipts by the Crown Agents	9,252,625	16	867,433	12	2
Temporary Loans from Local Banks	6,411	17	601	0	11½
Total	58,137,277	18¾	5,450,369	14	9

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
By Gross Expenditure of the year, viz.:—					
On Votes of the year	12,222,234	24½	1,145,834	9	2½
Against Balances of previous year	24,793	37	2,324	7	7
	12,247,027	61½	1,148,158	16	9½
By Drafts paid during the year	9,018,652	67	845,498	13	9
Payments from deposits	11,509,496	3½	1,079,015	5	1
Remittances made	3,407,508	95	319,453	19	3
Advances to Heads of Departments	5,726,443	5	536,854	0	9
Sums debited to Her Majesty's Government	399	61	37	9	3
Do. Government of India	257,757	83	24,164	15	11
Do. Straits Government	2	50	0	4	8
Do. Agents at Calcutta	547	0	51	5	7
Do. Agents at Madras	9,192	39	861	15	9
Do. Agents at Bombay	682	99	64	0	8
Do. Crown Agents	5,349,290	37	501,495	19	5
Payments on account temporary loans	11,072	13	1,038	0	3
Disbursements made by the Crown Agents	9,027,271	39	846,306	13	10½
	56,565,344	53	5,303,001	1	0
By Balance on the 31st December, 1883, viz.:—					
In the Colony	334,253	2			
In England	1,237,679	63¾			
	1,571,932	65¾	147,368	13	9
Total	58,137,277	18¾	5,450,369	14	9

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

VI.—STATEMENT showing the BALANCE of the Ceylon Government AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION on 1st January, 1884.

NIL.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 24th June, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

VII.—*STATEMENT showing the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1884.*

REVENUE.	Rs.	cts.
Arrears of revenue of former years recovered	284,871	12
Revenue of the Current Year.		
Customs	2,046,209	84
Port and Harbour Dues	50,622	27
Colombo Harbour Dues	299,961	54
Land Sales	298,515	51
Land Revenue	648,333	7
Rents, exclusive of Lands	275,987	6
Licenses	1,047,960	73
Stamps	569,257	77
Taxes, assessment on Houses and Gardens	22,661	63
Postal	180,390	76½
Fines and Forfeitures	31,402	72
Government Vessels	39,250	50
Sale of Government Property	742,785	87
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred by Government	284,260	32
Interest	108,875	5
Miscellaneous Receipts	137,317	61
Special Receipts	6,185	46
Pearl Fishery	16,284	66
Receipts by the Crown Agents in London	—	
Railway Receipts	1,836,442	12
Telegraph Receipts	13,498	76
Rs.	8,941,074	37½

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	cts.
Establishments.		
Fixed Salaries	1,442,412	92
Provisional and Temporary Salaries	1,640,348	1
Allowances	47,060	95
Office Contingencies	72,053	87
Services, exclusive of Establishments.		
Pensions and Retired Allowances	353,049	45
Revenue Services	316,187	29
Administration of Justice	124,166	54
Ecclesiastical	1,453	91
Charitable Allowances	32,153	3
Education	175,447	67
Hospitals and Sanitation	267,344	66
Police Services	69,370	68
Prisons Services	208,209	17
Rent	2,098	15
Transport	69,768	7
Conveyance of Mails and Postal Services	193,363	69
Works and Buildings	67,808	87
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	818,212	57
Miscellaneous	83,696	55
Interest	321,847	57
Colonial Store	13,369	26
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	779,867	7
Government Vessels	26,215	62
Refund of Duties	34,420	33
Lands taken for Government purposes	500	0
Telegraph Services	—	
Immigration	49,018	62
Railway Services	853,062	79
Rs.	8,062,327	31

Audit Office,
Colombo, 11th October, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

VIII.—*COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1883 and 1884.*

REVENUE.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1883.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1884.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Arrears of Revenue of former years recovered ...	353,209 70	284,871 12	—	68,338 58
Revenue of the Current Year.				
Customs	2,011,831 79	2,046,209 84	34,378 5	—
Port and Harbour Dues ...	40,573 36	50,622 27	10,048 91	—
Colombo Harbour Dues ...	299,455 26	299,961 54	506 28	—
Land Sales ...	189,017 56	298,515 51	109,497 95	—
Land Revenue ...	716,146 8½	648,333 7	—	67,813 1½
Rents, exclusive of Lands ...	239,222 82	275,987 6	36,764 24	—
Licenses	1,114,131 25	1,047,960 73	—	66,170 52
Stamps	580,847 69	569,257 77	—	11,589 92
Taxes, Assessment on Houses and Gardens	17,998 21	22,661 63	4,663 42	—
Postal	176,946 12	180,390 76½	3,444 64½	—
Fines and Forfeitures ...	34,382 8	31,402 72	—	2,979 36
Government Vessels ...	45,297 66	39,250 50	—	6,047 16
Sale of Government Property...	715,706 25	742,785 87	27,079 62	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred by Government	282,585 17	284,260 32	1,675 15	—
Interest	141,306 36	108,875 5	—	32,431 31
Miscellaneous receipts ...	210,687 20½	137,317 61	—	73,369 59½
Special Receipts ...	4,936 36	6,185 46	1,249 10	—
Pearl Fishery	220 14	16,284 66	16,064 52	—
Railway Receipts ...	1,801,504 37	1,836,442 12	34,937 75	—
Telegraph Receipts ...	14,046 81	13,498 76	—	548 5
Total—Rs.	8,990,052 25	8,941,074 37½	280,309 63½	329,287 51
		Deduct Increase ...		280,309 63½
		Nett Decrease ... Rs.		48,977 87½

EXPENDITURE.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1883.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1884.	Increase.	Decrease.
Establishments.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Fixed Salaries ...	1,436,162 71	1,442,412 92	6,250 21	—
Provisional and Temporary Salaries	1,648,379 44	1,640,348 1	—	8,031 43
Allowances	48,435 9	47,060 95	—	1,374 14
Office Contingencies ...	62,773 85	72,053 87	9,280 2	—
Services, exclusive of Establishments.				
Pensions and Retired Allowances	323,798 36	353,049 45	29,251 9	—
Revenue Services ...	245,474 61	316,187 29	70,712 68	—
Administration of Justice ...	128,731 48	124,166 54	—	4,564 94
Ecclesiastical ...	2,134 46	1,453 91	—	680 55
Charitable Allowances ...	31,743 35	32,153 3	409 68	—
Education	173,185 19	175,447 67	2,262 48	—
Hospitals and Sanitation ...	257,042 99	267,344 66	10,301 67	—
Police Services ...	77,094 91	69,370 68	—	7,724 23
Prison Services ...	201,900 45½	208,209 17	6,308 71½	—
Rent	2,424 4	2 098 15	—	325 89
Transport	60,683 30½	69,768 7	9,084 76½	—
Conveyance of Mails and Postal Services ...	153,647 79	193,363 69	39,715 90	—
Works and Buildings ...	51,151 55	67,808 87	16,657 32	—
Roads, Streets, and Bridges...	812,545 75	818,212 57	5,666 82	—
Miscellaneous ...	86,169 31	83,696 55	—	2,472 76
Interest	148,618 73	321,847 57	173,228 84	—
Colonial Store ...	14,302 65	13,369 26	—	933 39
Contribution towards Military Expenditure ...	953,156 10	779,687 7	—	173,469 3
Government Vessels ...	18,035 60	26,215 62	8,180 2	—
Refund of Duties ...	36,630 29	34,420 33	—	2,209 96
Lands taken for Government Purposes ...	1,000 0	500 0	—	500 0
Telegraph Services ...	17,578 41	—	—	17,578 41
Immigration	53,281 73	49,018 62	—	4,263 11
Railway Services ...	804,186 69	853,062 79	48,876 10	—
Total—Rs.	7,850,268 84	8,062,327 31	436,186 31	224,127 84
		Deduct Decrease ...	224,127 84	
		Nett Increase ... Rs.	212,058 47	

IX.—*COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the ESTIMATED and ACTUAL REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1884.*

REVENUE.	Estimated Revenue for 9 months.	Actual Revenue for 9 months.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Arrears of revenue of former years recovered ...	292,500 0	284,871 12	—	7,628 88
Revenue of the Current Year.				
Customs	2,025,000 0	2,046.209 84	21,209 84	—
Port and Harbour Dues ...	52,500 0	50,622 27	—	1,877 73
Colombo Harbour Dues ...	300,000 0	299.961 54	—	38 46
Land Sales	187,500 0	298,515 51	111,015 51	—
Land Revenue ...	637,500 0	648,333 7	10.833 7	—
Rents, exclusive of Lands ...	270,000 0	275,987 6	5,987 6	—
Licenses	1,095,000 0	1,047,960 73	—	47.039 27
Stamps	600,000 0	569,257 77	—	30,742 23
Taxes, Assessment on Houses and Gardens ...	22,500 0	22,661 63	161 63	—
Postal ...	180,000 0	180,390 76½	390 76½	—
Fines and Forfeitures ...	33,750 0	31,402 72	—	2,347 28
Government Vessels ...	45,0 0 0	39.250 50	—	5,749 50
Sale of Government Property...	787,500 0	742,785 87	—	44,714 13
Reimbursements in aid of Expenses incurred by Government ...	262.500 0	284.260 32	21,760 32	—
Interest	198,750 0	108.875 5	—	89.874 95
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	240,000 0	137.317 61	—	102,682 39
Special Receipts ...	6,000 0	6,185 46	185 46	—
Pearl Fishery	—	16.284 66	16,284 66	—
Railway Receipts ...	2,025,000 0	1,836,442 12	—	188.557 88
Telegraph Receipts ...	48,750 0	13,498 76	—	35,251 24
	9,309,750 0	8,941,074 37½	187.828 31½	556,503 94
			Deduct Increase ...	187,828 31½
			Nett Decrease ...	368.675 62½

EXPENDITURE.	Estimated Expenditure for 9 months.	Actual Expenditure for 9 months.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs cts	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Establishments.				
Fixed Salaries ...	1,493,039 25	1,442,412 92	—	50,626 33
Provisional & Temporary Salaries	1,779,534 87¾	1,640,348 1	—	139,186 86¾
Allowances	63,881 62½	47,060 95	—	16,820 67½
Office Contingencies ...	77,875 27½	72,053 87	—	5,821 40½
Services, exclusive of Establishments				
Pensions & Retired Allowances	401,349 24	353.049 45	—	48,299 79
Revenue Services ...	352,015 50	316.187 29	—	35.828 21
Administration of Justice ...	140,558 25	124,166 54	—	16,391 71
Ecclesiastical	2,392 50	1.453 91	—	938 59
Charitable Allowances ...	34,275 0	32,153 3	—	2,121 97
Education	187.698 75	175,447 67	—	12,251 8
Hospitals and Sanitation ...	316,824 0	267,344 66	—	49,479 34
Police Services ..	86,940 0	69,370 68	—	17,569 32
Prison Services ..	266.115 0	208,209 17	—	57,905 83
Rent	2,445 0	2,098 15	—	346 85
Transport	74,598 75	69,768 7	—	4,830 68
Conveyance of Mails and Postal Services	216 065 42¼	193,363 69	—	22,701 73¼
Works and Buildings ..	97.786 50	67,808 87	—	29,977 63
Roads, Streets, and Bridges ...	1,040,121 39¾	818,212 57	—	221,908 82¾
Miscellaneous	113,599 50	83.696 55	—	29,902 95
Interest	371,550 37½	321,847 57	—	49,702 80½
Colonial Store ...	26,197 44	13,369 26	—	12,828 18
Contribution towards Military Expenditure ...	773,625 0	779.687 7	6,062 7	—
Government Vessels ...	41,250 0	26,215 62	—	15,034 38
Refund of Duties ...	33,750 0	34,420 33	670 33	—
Lands taken for Government Purposes	375 0	500 0	125 0	—
Immigration	67,980 0	49,018 62	—	18,961 38
Railway Services ...	1,188,387 7½	853,062 79	—	335,324 28½
Exchange	26,250 0	—	—	26,250 0
	9,276,480 72¾	8,062,327 31	6,857 40	1,221,010 81¾
			Deduct Increase ...	6,857 40
			Nett Decrease ...	1,214,153 41¾

Audit Office,
Colombo, 11th October, 1884.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

X.—*ESTIMATE of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Year* 1885.

REVENUE.	Rs. cts.
Arrears of Revenue of former years	300,000 0
Customs	3,000,000 0
Port and Harbour Dues	450,000 0
Land Sales	300,000 0
Land Revenue	900,000 0
Rents, exclusive of Land	350,000 0
Licenses	1,500,000 0
Stamps	950,000 0
Taxes	35,000 0
Postage	250,000 0
Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court	45,000 0
Government Vessels	60,000 0
Sale of Government Property	1,000,000 0
Reimbursements in aid of Expenses incurred by Government	360,000 0
Electric Telegraph	60,000 0
Miscellaneous Receipts	200,000 0
Interest	85,000 0
Special Receipts	8,000 0
Railway Receipts	2,800,000 0
Pearl Fishery	440 0
	12,653,440 0
Draft from Balances	31,823 0
Total—Rs.	12,685,263 0

EXPENDITURE.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs cts.
Fixed Establishments.			
Civil	1,104,797 75		
Judicial	594,000 0		
Ecclesiastical	87,200 0		
Public Instruction	26,750 0		
Medical	85,050 0		
Police	23,500 0		
Prisons	3,650 0		
Convict Establishment	12,840 0		
Colonial Store	26,271 25		
		1,964,059 0	
Interest on Breakwater loan	—	416,439 0	
Do. on Waterworks loan	—	140,061 0	
Do. on Railway loan	—	765,000 0	
Do. on Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	—	3,500 0	
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	—	600,000 0	
			3,921,459 0
Charges voted by the Legislative Council in Appropriation Ordinance for 1885	—	—	8,722,126 89
			12,643,585 89
Works charged on Balances	—	—	31,823 0
Surplus Revenue	—	—	9,854 11
		Total—Rs.	12,685,263 0

Council Chamber,
Colombo, 22nd December, 1884.

JOHN F. DICKSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

XXVIII.—1884.

PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to further provide for the protection of Prædial Products."

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
GEO. J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council dated 19th December, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance to further provide for the protection of Prædial Products."

The Hon. F. Fleming, Attorney-General.
The Hon. F. R. Saunders, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. F. C. H. Clarke, R.A., C.M.G., Surveyor-General.
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis,
The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet,
The Hon. R. B. Downall,
} Unofficial Members.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council dated 19th January, 1885.

Resolved,—That the following gentleman be put upon the Sub-Committee on the Prædial Products Bill :—

The Hon. P. Rama-Náthan, Unofficial Member.

PRÆDIAL PRODUCTS BILL.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee of Council appointed to report on "An Ordinance to further provide for the protection of Prædial Products" beg to submit as follows :—

The Committee recommend that in the title and preamble of the Ordinance the words "certain descriptions of produce" should be inserted in place of "prædial produce."

The Committee recommend the omission of the definition of "imprisonment" from clause 1, inasmuch as the particular kind of imprisonment to which an offender may be sentenced has been inserted by the Committee in clauses 2 and 5.

The definition of "police officer" appears to the Committee unnecessary for the purposes of this Ordinance.

The Committee recommend, (the Attorney-General and the Government Agent of the Western Province dissenting,) that in order to make the operation of this Ordinance more general in its effect, "cocoanut estates of over twenty-five acres in extent" be included under the heading "plantation."

In clause 3 the majority of the Committee strongly recommend, (the Attorney-General and the Government Agent for the Western Province dissenting,) that where the Police Courts have power to try offences under the Ordinance, power should be given to such Courts to administer lashes in the manner prescribed by sections 55 and 56 of the Ceylon Penal Code,—the number of lashes not to exceed twenty.

The Committee beg to report the Ordinance with the above alterations and amendments.

F. FLEMING.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
F. C. H. CLARKE.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
A. L. DE ALWIS.
R. A BOSANQUET.
R. B. DOWNALL.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 26th January, 1885.

XXIX.—1884.

FORESTS AND WASTE LANDS BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance relating to Forests and Waste Lands, and to the felling and transport of Timber."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 8th January, 1885.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance relating to Forests and Waste Lands, and to the felling and transport of Timber."

The Hon. J. F. Dickson, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. Fleming, Attorney-General.
The Hon. R. W. D. Moir, Acting Treasurer.
The Hon. F. R. Saunders, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. Major F. C. H. Clarke, R.A., C.M.G., Surveyor-General.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
The Hon. P. Rama-Nathan,
The Hon F. M. Mackwood,
The Hon. R. A. Bosanquet,
The Hon. R. B. Downall,
} Unofficial Members.

Five Members to be a quorum.

BILL RELATING TO FORESTS AND WASTE LANDS.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed to report on "An Ordinance relating to Forests and Waste Lands, and to the felling and transport of Timber," beg to report as follows :—

The Bill which is drawn on the lines of the Burma Forest Act, as recommended by Mr. Vincent in his report "On the Conservation and Administration of the Crown Forests in Ceylon," (Sessional Paper XLIII. of 1882,) provides for the administration of the Forests, under the control of a Conservator and staff of Forest Officers. It confers on the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents extensive powers of general control and supervision. The powers so conferred to secure and protect reserved forests, though great, are not greater than the urgency of the case demands, for it would be useless to expend the funds of the Colony on Government timber plantations, without providing effective means for protecting these plantations from depredation and damage.

The Committee having carefully considered the duties which will have to be performed by a Forest Settlement Officer, are of opinion that the Assistant Government Agents would, as a general rule, be most competent to treat with the people and arrive at a fair decision upon claims which may be preferred: they consider it an essential qualification for such an Officer to have an intimate acquaintance with the language prevailing in the district, as also with local customs and requirements bearing on claims which will be brought before him.

The necessity for a careful and patient inquiry into the existing rights and claims of all parties is looked upon by the Committee as of paramount importance.

The evils attending chena cultivation and the damage caused by firing waste lands and squatting on them will be considerably lessened if the system of issuing permits as contemplated by this Bill is intelligently carried out; and the system should entail no serious inconvenience on the villagers.

The question of appeal from the decision of the Forest Settlement Officer to the Government Agent of the Province was earnestly discussed.

The Committee are agreed that such an appeal is desirable, but the Unofficial Members are unanimous in recommending that, whether such an appeal be allowed or not, an appeal to the Supreme Court in the last instance is essential in the highest degree, and that no obstacle should be placed in the way of any aggrieved person carrying his cause before the highest tribunal should he so desire. The Official Members of the Committee record no opinion upon the question of the appeal to the Supreme Court here suggested.

The Bill in all its details has been very carefully considered by the Sub-Committee, and is reported to the Council with the amendments which the Sub-Committee have unanimously adopted. The question of final appeal from the decision of the Government Agent on appeals from findings of the Forest Settlement Officer is one on which, as already stated, the Sub-Committee are not altogether agreed, and therefore no amendment on this point appears in the Revised Draft.

J. F. DICKSON.
F. FLEMING.
R. W. D. MOIR.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
F. C. H. CLARKE.
J. VAN LANGENBERG.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
R. A. BOSANQUET.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 12th February, 1885.

XXX.—1884.

ANNUAL LICENSES FOR KILLING GAME.

RETURN to an Order of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL dated the 19th January, 1885.

"That a Return be furnished showing the Number of Annual Licenses issued under clause 5 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1872, from all Kachchéries, during the past Five Years."

(Hon. R. B. Dornall.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

GEO. J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1885.

ANNUAL LICENSES FOR KILLING GAME.

RETURN showing the Number of Annual Licenses issued under clause 5 of the Ordinance No. 6 of 1872 during the past Five Years.

FROM	In 1880	In 1881	In 1882	In 1883	In 1884
Colombo, and the four Kachchéries of *Ratnapura*, *Kégalla*, *Kalutara* and *Negombo*	2	—	2	—	—
Kurunégala	6	—	7	4	—
Galle *	32	24	15	30	15
Batticaloa	5	6	4	4	5
Jaffna *	10	5	10	9	5
Kandy	9	3	11	9	20
Anurádhapura	1	6	2	2	8
Total ...	65	44	51	58	53

* This includes special license for killing buffaloes.

Colombo, 16th February, 1885